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CONFIDENTIAL.

(5704.)

PART XVII.

F.O.
403

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF NORTH AFRICA.

62

April to June 1888.

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[The following despatch should have appeared in its place in Part XVI.]

No. 1.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 21.)

(No. 31.)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 12, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 14 of the 16th ultimo, directing me to furnish your Lordship with a report on the subject of the possible control of the foreign liquor traffic in Tangier.

Whilst admitting that I am at one with the desire of the Society for the Suppression of the Liquor Traffic for Native Races, to guard not only the natives of Tangier, but those also of the whole of Morocco from the demoralizing results of easy access to abundant supplies of ardent drinks, I yet do not see how any representations on my part to the Moorish Government would improve the position already held in the mind of the Sultan by all those who are opponents of the free supply of intoxicating liquors and drugs.

The Sultan has already attempted, quite unsuccessfully it must be admitted, to prevent his subjects from using tobacco and kiff (hemp), and Mussulmans who are found intoxicated are frequently imprisoned, fined, or severely flogged.

Thus the Society will learn that it is not here, but among the European Governments, that it had better exercise its influence for attaining the ends it has in view.

When all the Governments who have interests in Morocco and have Consular Representatives here, shall have agreed to control the liquor traffic, and many other matters of equal, if not of greater importance, then will be the time to discuss whether the present system of Consular jurisdiction is not sufficient to enforce the observance of regulations that may be established.

The Society for the Suppression of the Liquor Traffic among Native Races seems, like the Society for the Protection of Aborigines, to have been led to believe that the Consular authorities in Tangier are responsible for all the shortcomings of the primitive Moorish government administration, and to be under the impression that the amalgamation of all the Consular Courts into a single one would prove sufficient to bring about the regeneration of this country.

A closer study of this question, I feel convinced would enable both Societies to understand that it has little connection with the special objects for the furtherance of which the Societies exist, and that they may safely leave the task of endeavouring to lead the Moorish Government into a path of progress and civilization to the care of Her Majesty's Government and their Representatives.

In conclusion, it is but right towards the reputation of Tangier that I should state that intoxication among the natives is not one of the most evident evils of the place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

CONFIDENTIAL

Further correspondence respecting the Affairs of North Africa.

PART XVII.

No. 1.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 43. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 24, 1888.

WITH reference to Sir Claro Ford's despatches to your Lordship Nos. 19 and 24, Confidential, of the 12th and 16th ultimo, on the subject of Señor Moret's belief that it would not be possible to obtain from all the Powers that are to be represented at the Conference an agreement to respect intact the *status quo* in Morocco, both territorially and politically, and his Excellency's suggestion that some combined action on the part of the Powers, other than France, who are interested in Morocco, similar to that followed by England, Spain, and Italy at this time last year, would always thwart French aspirations in the direction of territorial concessions or conquest in this country, I venture to draw your Lordship's attention to my despatch No. 84, Confidential, of the 22nd August last.

The belief therein expressed by me that Señor Diosdado, the Spanish Minister, advised the Sultan to abstain from accepting the proposal made to him to engage himself to make no further territorial cessions in any direction without first consulting the British, Spanish, and Italian Governments, and to put forward the counter-proposal for the neutralization of Morocco, has been in no way removed by the lapse of time. Indeed, I am convinced that, Spain having ulterior views on this country, Señor Diosdado perceived, shortly after the dispatch of the identic note of the 12th March, 1897, that those views would be quite as much held in check as French aspirations, and, therefore, encouraged the Sultan to look upon the engagement which was asked of him as being one-sided, and only favourable to the three European Governments.

I have no reason to think that Señor Diosdado would now, except under formal instructions from the Spanish Government, advise the Sultan to enter into an engagement similar to the one submitted to His Majesty last year, and which Señor Diosdado found, as he has repeatedly explained to me, the Sultan was justified in rejecting.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 2.

Sir W. Kirby Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 3.)

(No. 44.)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 27, 1888.

IN continuation of my despatch to your Lordship No. 23 of the 17th ultimo, I have now the honour to transmit herewith translations of a note and its inclosure which Cid-el-Hadj Mohammed Torres has sent to me as his definitive refusal to reopen the case of Messrs. Shuttleworth and Co. against Solomon Pariente.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Cid-el-Hadj Mohammed Torres to Sir W. K. Green.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

WITH reference to the question between Messrs. Shuttleworth and Co. and the Jew, Salomon Pariente, who is a subject of our Lord the Sultan, which you communicated to me verbally, I have spoken to him on the subject, and he answered me that he was not aware that the said firm has any claim against him, or has had any business relations with him since those of former days, a claim as to which was settled by arbitration through me and the then British Consul, Mr. (Horace) White. The arbitration award is still with you in your office. I inclose you his answer, which I consider sufficient. Peace!

Dated 11 Rejeb, 1305 (March 25, 1888).

(Signed)

MOHAMMED TORRES.

P.S.—I just now remember that you communicated with me on this subject formerly, and that I answered you under date of Rejeb 3, 1303.

M. T.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Mr. S. M. Pariente to Cid-el-Hadj Mohammed Torres.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

WITH reference to your Excellency's statement to me as to Messrs. Shuttleworth and Co.'s having presented a claim against me, I have to inform you that I have reflected seriously as to whether I am under any liability to them, or have had any business relations with them, in order to explain the claim they have brought against me. I have not been able to account for it in any way otherwise than by the business relations I carried on with them in former days, out of which a claim arose, which was settled through your Excellency by arbitration, the settlement being agreed to by the British Consul, Mr. White, about three years' ago: there is nothing more to be said in the matter by either side. The award of the Arbitrators is still in the office of the British Consul. They have no ground for prosecuting me whatever. Peace!

Dated Rejeb 10, 1305 (March 24, 1888).

(Signed)

SALOMON M. PARIENTE.

P.S.—I, however, claim from them 80% for accounts adjusted between me and them by the British Consul.

S. M. P.

No. 3.

Question asked in the House of Commons, April 5, 1888.

Mr. Alexander M'Arthur.—To ask the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether Her Majesty's Government have considered the expediency of offering their mediation in the dispute between the American Representative at Tangier and the Sultan of Morocco.

Answer.

Her Majesty's Government have not offered their mediation in the differences which have arisen between the United States' Consul at Tangier and the Moorish Government. Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco has done what he could with propriety to bring about an accommodation, but without success at present, and the case in question is understood to have been referred by the Consul to the Government of the United States.

No. 4.

Baron H. de Worms to Sir J. Pauncefoot. (Received April 6.)

(Private.)

Dear Sir Julian Pauncefoot,

Downing Street, April 5, 1888.

I AM much obliged for your note, inclosing a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangiers,* which I have read with great interest. I do not know why the original

* Sir W. Kirby Green, No. 38, of March 20, 1888.

telegram from Mr. Levy Cohen was sent to me, except under the false impression that I was still President of the Anglo-Jewish Association, a position which I have ceased to occupy for nearly three years. It would appear from the despatch that many of the allegations made are unfounded and some are exaggerated, and, in view of preventing further questions being put in the House by Mr. Serjeant Simon or Sir Julian Goldsmid on behalf of the Anglo-Jewish Association, it might perhaps be well if the despatch or some portion of it, as you may think fit, could be communicated to one or other of these gentlemen.

Yours truly,
(Signed) H. DE WORMS.

No. 5.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 37.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 6, 1888.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 40 of the 24th ultimo, detailing your further action in the matter of the differences which have arisen between the United States' Consul at Tangier and the Moorish Government, and I have to convey to you my entire approval of your proceedings, as reported therein.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 6.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury. (Received April 7.)

(No. 45.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 1, 1888.

I LEARN from my French colleague that he has received information from the authorities in Algeria confirming a report which has been current here for some days past that a dervish has appeared at Taflet (near the south-western confines of Algeria), and is preaching a holy war against Mulai Hassan and infidels.

The dervish belongs to the Derkawah order, which preaches and is supposed to practise poverty.

M. Féraud has seen the text of one of the Derkawee's proclamations, in which the destruction of the Sultan's authority is enjoined as a preliminary to the regeneration of Mussulmans. It appears that no collision has yet taken place between the followers of the dervish and the Sultan's adherents.

Though the Derkawah are vowed to poverty, more instances than one exist in past history of dervishes of this order having raised themselves into being Sultans.

I believe Mulai Hassan is taking active steps for the suppression of the dervish.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 7.

Sir J. Berile to the Marquis of Salisbury. (Received April 10.)

(No. 87. Ext. 11.)

My Lord,

Rome, March 26, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs is of opinion that Morocco is much justified in her desire to exclude the Porte from the Madrid Conference. His Excellency has not yet returned a reply to the Spanish Ambassador in the above sense.

I have this day reported the above to your Lordship by telegram.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
(Signed) J. G. KENNEDY.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 11.)

(No. 40. Confidential.)

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 45 of the 1st instant, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that, from trustworthy information reaching me from the Sherrefian Court, I learn that nothing is publicly known either at Fez or Mequinez of the asserted proceedings of the Derkawi Sherref in the neighbourhood of Taflelt. A report was, however, current, which the Sultan's surroundings declared to be unfounded, that a serious collision had taken place between the inhabitants of the district of Figuig, who oppose the recent occupation by the French of Genan Borzig, and French troops. It is stated that in this encounter the Moors had been successful, though they had suffered a loss of 1,200 men.

My informant at the Sherrefian Court adds that the Sultan is again in poor health, and apparently considerably affected by the hostile attitude assumed by the two great tribes of Beni M'tir and Beni M'gilid, which occupy the country around Fez and Meknes, and which, notwithstanding overtures made to them by the Sultan, are still unwilling to render the usual marks of homage to a Sovereign when he is in their neighbourhood. Should the Sultan's information concerning the proceedings at Taflelt be in agreement with that of M. Féraud, his anxious demeanour may be better attributed to that information than to the attitude of the two tribes.

It is, however, probable that the Sultan will defer commencing his march towards Tangier until the Beni M'tir and Beni M'gilid have made their submission. I have observed, with reference to the Sultan's expected visit in this direction, that my French colleague does not view it with favour, and that he attaches importance to the asserted tribal and other internal disorders, with the apparent object of giving value to his expressed belief that Mulai Hassan will never find a convenient time for coming to this portion of his dominion.

It may, perhaps, interest your Lordship to know also that, on the rumoured rising at Taflelt becoming known among the Moors here, a feeling in sympathy with it was generally expressed, on the ground that the Sultan had met with deserved censure at the hands of his Sherrefian relatives at Taflelt through having sent an embassy to the Pope.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 9.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 11.)

(No. 53.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 48 of the 22nd ultimo, which reached me by messenger on the 3rd instant.

In the afternoon of the same day I saw Señor Moret, the Spanish Minister of State, and I made his Excellency a communication in the sense of your Lordship's despatch.

Señor Moret, after having heard what I had to say, stated that he was most anxious to learn exactly what your Lordship's views were as to the subjects to be touched upon at the proposed Conference on Moorish affairs, so as to avoid all misunderstandings on the subject.

At his Excellency's request, I gave him a copy of that part of your Lordship's despatch which ran as follows:—

"There has never been, therefore, a question of submitting for the consideration of the Conference a proposal to guarantee the integrity of Morocco, but only to respect it."

"Her Majesty's Government only agreed to take part in the Conference on the clear understanding that the subject of respecting the integrity of Morocco should not be excluded from discussion so far as it might arise in connection with that of protection of natives and of extended commercial facilities."

Señor Moret stated that he fully agreed with the terms above expressed, but he gave me to understand at the same time that inasmuch as any allusion to the integrity

question at the Conference was only to be brought in conditionally, he would not propose to mention it in a concrete form in the programme of the invitation he intended to issue when fixing a date for the meeting of the Conference.

In speaking of the formula in which his letter of invitation would be worded, Señor Moret referred to an interview which Señor del Mazo, the Spanish Ambassador, had held, on the 28th October last, with Sir Julian Pauncefote at the Foreign Office in London. At this interview Sir Julian had read a paper to Señor del Mazo—and which your Lordship had drawn up—and a copy of which Sir Julian Pauncefote had given to Señor del Mazo, and which was forwarded by the latter to Señor Moret in the exact form of which the inclosed is a copy.

Señor Moret then said that he should adopt the sense of your Lordship's words in his invitation, which would run as follows, that "the Conference should meet to consider to what extent and on what conditions the Powers can accede to the wishes expressed by the Sultan of Morocco," in the letter which had been addressed to him (Señor Moret) on the 17th August, 1887, a copy of which was inclosed in his Excellency's despatch of the 1st December, 1887, to the Spanish Representatives at foreign Courts, in which he had proposed the meeting of a Conference on Moorish affairs to be held in Madrid.

Señor Moret understands that the words, "and on what conditions," give entire freedom to the Powers represented at the Conference to broach any other subject which might arise out of the question of the protection of natives.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

Inclosure in No. 9.

Inclosure in Señor del Mazo's Despatch to Señor Moret of October 29, 1887.
(Translation.)

Memorandum of the Foreign Office.

LORD SALISBURY expresses his willingness to meet in Conference, in deference to the wish of the Spanish Government, but it must be with a wide reference. His Lordship suggests that the Conference should meet to consider to what extent and on what conditions the Powers can accede to the wishes expressed by the Sultan of Morocco in his two communications, the one relating to protection, and the other to the neutrality of his dominions.

No. 10.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 11.)

(No. 54. Confidential. Ext. 3.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 8, 1888.

WITH reference to the telegram No. 3, which I had the honour to address to your Lordship on the 28th ultimo, relative to the attitude assumed by the Italian Government on the subject of the questions to be discussed at the proposed Conference on Moorish affairs, and to the suggestion which had been made on the subject by the Italian Ambassador at Madrid to Señor Crispi, I have now the honour to report that Count Tornelli has been informed by his Government that they do not insist on the integrity question forming part of the programme of the Conference.

Señor Moret, the Spanish Minister of State, has spoken quite recently to the Italian Ambassador in the same sense in which he has spoken to me, and he has explained to Count Tornelli the meaning of the formula which he proposes using in issuing his note fixing a day for the assembling of the Conference.

Señor Moret has explained to the Italian Ambassador that the words "to what extent and on what conditions" the protection of natives in Morocco can be modified will open the door to the possibility of subjects other than that of protection being discussed, and, in short, supply ample opportunities for a "wider reference" than that formerly proposed by the French Government, namely, that the question of protection and that alone should be approached in the proposed Conference. It would appear, therefore, as if no further misunderstanding exists so far as regards the intentions and wishes of the Italian and the British Governments on the subject with Señor Moret, but I

should observe that matters do not seem to be perfectly cleared up between the French and Spanish Governments as to the programme of the Conference, and I foresee that difficulties may still have to be encountered and surmounted before any prospect of the Conference meeting can be calculated upon.

Your Lordship will recollect the terms of the telegram (copy of which was inclosed in my despatch No. 48, Confidential, of the 24th ultimo) which had been addressed by M. Flourens, who was at that time French Minister for Foreign Affairs, to M. Cambon, the French Ambassador in Madrid. I am unaware what view M. Goblet, the present French Minister for Foreign Affairs, may take with regard to this Conference question, but M. Cambon, who is at present in Paris, is expected to return to this city early next week, and then, no doubt, this matter will be cleared up one way or the other. I own that, for my part, I cannot help thinking that the precise terms employed by M. Flourens in his above-mentioned telegram point in a very decided manner in the direction of the determination of the French Government, that subjects not previously agreed upon should be excluded from the deliberations of the Representatives who will assemble at the Conference.

They may or they may not raise objections to Señor Moret's formula; and that point still remains to be cleared up.

Count Tornielli informed me that, for his part, he should rest content if at the Conference the question of the integrity of Morocco being respected by the Powers whose Representatives would sit at the Conference Table should be brought up, and result, if nothing more, in finding a place in the Protocol of the sitting at which the question might be raised.

The desire of Italy, he said, would have been achieved; for without an expression of opinion having been recorded on this important point, one of the principal objects of the Conference would not have been attained.

Thus, your Lordship will observe that Señor Moret's Conference scheme is now in sight of port, but it still remains to be seen whether some sunken rock may yet not jeopardize the possibility of its effecting a safe entrance into it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

No. 11.

Foreign Office to Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 11, 1888.

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier relative to presents destined for the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.*

Her Majesty has signified her pleasure to receive these gifts, and Lord Salisbury should be glad to be informed as soon as possible whether the Duke of Edinburgh will be at Tangier during the time of the Sultan's visit to that city.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 12.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 2. Treaty.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 12, 1888.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatch No. 34, Confidential, of the 17th ultimo, and, in reply, I am commanded to inform you that it will give Her Majesty great pleasure to accept the presents which His Majesty the Sultan has been good enough to prepare for her.

I have communicated a copy of your despatch to the Board of Admiralty, and will inform you as soon as possible whether the Duke of Edinburgh will be able to be at Tangier during the time of the Sultan's visit there.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

* See Part XVI, No. 176.

No. 13.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Savile.

(No. 84.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 12, 1888.

THE Italian Chargé d'Affaires at this Court called at the Foreign Office to-day and read to me a telegram from the Italian Ambassador at Madrid, communicated to him by Signor Crispi, the substance of which is as follows, in regard to the proposed Conference at Madrid on the affairs of Morocco.

Count Tornielli reported that he had reason to believe that the instructions of the French Ambassador, who had returned to Madrid the day previous, were that the discussions in the Conference should be limited solely to the questions of protection and of commercial concessions. That the Spanish Secretary of State proposed to convoke the Conference in order to show to what extent and on what conditions the Powers would be prepared to meet the wish expressed by the Sultan of Morocco in the Moorish note of the 17th August, annexed to the Spanish Circular of the 1st December last. This formula was to be found in the English communication of October last to the Spanish Minister in London.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 14.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 5.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, April 13, 1888.

YOUR No. 53.

Will Señor Moret, before meeting of Conference, make statement to Sultan, as described in 3rd and 4th paragraphs of Señor del Mazo's communication of 25th October, recorded in my No. 151 A?

If so, Her Majesty's Government concur in proposed formula.

No. 15.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 53. Ext.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 13, 1888.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 53 of the 5th instant, in which you report that you had carried out the instructions conveyed in my despatch No. 48 of the 22nd ultimo, and that Señor Moret, after hearing what your Excellency had to say, stated that he was most anxious to learn exactly what were the views of Her Majesty's Government as to the subjects to be touched upon at the proposed Conference on Moorish affairs, so as to avoid all misunderstandings on the subject.

I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government concur in the formula in which Señor Moret proposes that his letter of invitation to the Conference should be couched, as reported in your despatch, if his Excellency will before the meeting of the Conference make a statement to the Sultan of Morocco, as described in the third and fourth paragraphs of Señor del Mazo's communication of the 25th October last, which was recorded in my despatch to you No. 157 A of the same date.

The substance of the foregoing has this day been sent to your Excellency by telegraph.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 16.

Foreign Office to Sir J. Simon, M.P.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 13, 1888.

WITH reference to your letter of the 28th February, and to the question asked by you in Parliament respecting the case of the widow Attias, I am directed by the Marquis

of Salisbury to acquaint you that a despatch upon the subject has been received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier.*

Sir W. K. Green reports that Mr. White, Her Majesty's Consul, within whose sphere of duty the case properly fell, far from having declined to aid Mrs. Attias in guarding her ward, brought to his (Sir W. Green's) knowledge the fears that were entertained of Guillermo de Celis being gained possession of in some violent manner by his Spanish relatives, and the legal difficulties that were in the way of efficiently protecting Mrs. Attias' ward.

Sir W. K. Green proceeds to say that he therefore thought it well to send for some of the Elders of the Jewish community in Tangier to explain to them in a private and confidential manner that if they held to Guillermo de Celis being brought up in the Jewish faith, they would do well to remove him to Gibraltar or some other place of equal safety.

The reply made to his communication by the Elders was that Guillermo de Celis being the baptized bastard of a Jew, the Jews were not very keen about retaining him in their community, and that Mrs. Attias must take her chance of being able to keep possession of the boy.

Sir W. K. Green observes that perhaps, under these circumstances, intemperance on the part of the British officials might have been justified, but that, as probably Mrs. Attias herself would testify, throughout all the phases of the question of the rightful custody of the boy De Celis, Mr. White has availed himself to the utmost of the courses open to him by law to protect Mrs. Attias' position.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 17.

Sir L. West to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 16.)

(No. 126.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship herewith an article from the "New York Tribune" on the difficulty which has arisen in Morocco with regard to Consular protection afforded by the United States' Consul to a Moorish subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. SACKVILLE WEST.

Inclosure in No. 17.

Extract from the "New York Tribune" of April 5, 1888.

THE AMERICAN MOORS.—The State Department makes spasmodic displays of energy in its dealings with weak Governments. It magnified the importance of the Cutting case, and by arbitrary and unwarrantable demands upon a friendly Power endangered the interests of peace without adequate provocation. In like manner it is exaggerating the significance of trivial incidents in the relations of Consul Lewis with the Sultan of Morocco, and in order to secure redress for either petty or fictitious insults to the American flag has called into requisition the services of three men-of-war. The "Enterprise" is now at Tangier, and the "Quinnebaug" and "Lancaster" have received orders to join her in a burlesque naval demonstration off the coast of Morocco.

The causes which have led to this fantastic performance are officially declared in Consul Lewis' despatches and may be briefly recited. The Consul granted a patent of protection last November to a native Mahomedan, El Hofir. This native was subsequently arrested in the course of legal proceedings begun before the patent was issued. In like manner protection had formally been granted to another Mahomedan, El Hihi, who was acting under a power of attorney for Leon Wahnish, a citizen of the United States; and this protégé was also arrested, his goods and camels were seized, his estates plundered, and his wives and children publicly flogged. In both cases American protection has not been recognized by the local authorities as affording immunity from civil and criminal proceedings under native jurisdiction. One native is still imprisoned, and no reparation or apology has been offered for the indignities and outrages to which the other has been subjected. Controversy has also arisen over the list of persons under American protection, the Sultan's Foreign Minister proposing to limit it to twelve

* Sir W. Kirby Green, No. 36, of March 12, 1888.

names. Consul Lewis also complains of insulting conduct on the part of the Basha of Tangier, who resented his action in appealing to the Sultan respecting a legal question involved in tenancies of mosque property, and laid the case before the Diplomatic Corps.

So far as the Consul's personal grievances are concerned his diplomatic associates can probably be depended upon to judge for themselves whether the Basha has or has not complied with the requirements of official etiquette. Presumably, three men-of-war have not been dispatched to Tangier for the sake of impressing the Sultan with the necessity of scrupulously regarding the *amour-propre* of the American Consul. Probably the naval demonstration has been ordered for the purpose of vindicating the rights of the Mahomedan protégés of the United States' Government under the Madrid Convention of 1880. Curiously enough, that Convention was designed to restrict the practice of giving protection to Moorish subjects by foreign Consular officers and of exempting them from the payment of local taxes. Secretary Evarts, in instructing General Fairchild, Minister to Spain, to attend the Morocco Conference, called his attention to the complaints which had been made of undue activity on the part of United States' Consular officials in granting patents of protection, and affirmed that the Department was "cordially in favour of the adoption by common consent of an equitable rule which may do away with the excessive and injurious exercise of the prerogative of foreign protection of natives." The Conference had been preceded by a series of Diplomatic Councils at Tangier, at which the United States' Consul-General was shown to have made a very large use of this privilege of protecting natives. The resident diplomatists admitted that the practice which had grown up under Treaty stipulations was unjust to the Moorish Government and burdensome to its Exchequer. The Conference at Madrid undertook to remove abuses of this privilege and to restrict the number of natives entitled to protection. In view of these facts it is alike singular and unfortunate that the first serious controversy arising under the new Convention should be based upon the undue activity of United States' officials in availing themselves of their abridged privileges.

The diplomatic practice of guaranteeing the safety of natives in semi-civilized countries is one which is steadily declining, common sense and morality alike condemning it. Political refugees may be justly entitled to the right of asylum in foreign Consulates; interpreters and necessary native officials should also be protected; but the indiscriminate use which Consul Lewis seems to have made of his privilege of adopting Moors as favoured protégés of the United States' Government seems both mischievous and unnecessary, and almost certain to lead to barren controversy. He certainly fails in his despatches to justify his own meddlesome activity in the Barbary States, and we are utterly at a loss to understand why three vessels of war have been placed at his disposal, ostensibly for enforcing demands which evidently have not been presented with much judgment or tact. Secretary Bayard apparently has been impressed with the gravity of the crisis and the urgent necessity for protecting the rights of these "American" Moors. A naval demonstration is a token of unwonted energy and interest. It is almost enough to encourage the poor fishermen of the New England coast to turn Mahomedans in the hope of securing substantial support from the State Department.

No. 18.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 16.)

(No. 47. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 8, 1888.

BY my despatch No. 40, Confidential, of the 24th ultimo, I had the honour to report to your Lordship the manner in which the attempt by the Moorish Government to bring about an understanding between itself and the United States' Consul at Tangier, through the good offices of myself and the Italian Representative, had failed.

I am now, however, able to report to your Lordship that matters in this Mauro-American affair have again assumed a more favourable aspect.

On the 2nd instant I received a reply from Cid Emfadi Gharneet—translation of which is herewith inclosed—to the advice which I had given to the Sultan on the 7th ultimo (translation also herein sent), through his Excellency, to offer to Mr. Reed Lewis to submit the pending differences to the decision of a mutual friend or friends.

Cid Emfadi Gharneet, in his reply, though rather mutilating the mode I had recommended of arriving at a settlement, still makes it clear that the Sultan accepted my suggestion for submitting the American claims to arbitration. I was therefore

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surprised to receive a message from Mr. Reed Lewis, on the same day as the Moorish Minister's letter reached me, to the effect that the Acting Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, Cid El Hadj Mohammed Zugary, had communicated to him a note from Cid Emfadi Gharneet, rejecting, in the Sultan's name, all his (Mr. Reed Lewis) proposals for a settlement of the United States' claims.

I consequently called on Mr. Reed Lewis in order to be clearly informed on the matter, and from even the cursory view afforded me of the Moorish communications, I felt justified in strongly recommending the Consul not to come to the hasty conclusion that the Sultan had definitively declined to entertain the claims.

Next morning, the 3rd instant, Mr. Reed Lewis let me know that he had, after he had obtained careful translations of the Arabic documents, adopted my more favourable view of their contents, and more so when Cid El Hadj Mohammed Zugary had further explained their full meaning to him.

I will not trouble your Lordship with a detailed recital of the untiring efforts which have ever since had to be made to prevent the renewal of misunderstandings between the Consul and the Acting Commissioner for Foreign Affairs. In these efforts I was constantly supported by Signor Cantagalli, the newly-arrived Italian Minister, who, through his intimate knowledge of the English language and evidently impartial mind, was able to gain a most salutary influence over Mr. Reed Lewis.

Herr Travers, the German Minister, who had been actually selected and appointed by the Sultan to act as Arbitrator on behalf of the Moorish Government in case of Arbitrators being named from among the foreign Representatives here, has been unable, through his deplorable state of health, to take a prominent part in these conciliatory proceedings, which have now culminated in the signature by Hadj Mohammed Zugary and Mr. Reed Lewis of an engagement, subject to the Sultan's ratification, under which the American claims are to receive a solution.

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of this engagement, as well as a translation of a private and confidential letter which I have addressed to Cid Emfadi Gharneet requesting him to use his utmost efforts to secure the Sultan's ratification of the Acting Commissioner's engagement. I trust your Lordship will not disapprove of my having given this advice to his Excellency, for it was only on my distinctly promising Hadj Mohammed Zugary that the Sultan would be so advised by me that he consented to sign the engagement.

I have been especially careful, from a true knowledge of the personal dangers and responsibilities weighing on a Moorish official in the position of the Acting Commissioner, not to compromise in the slightest degree the Sultan's right of final decision, hence the last clause in the engagement, which Mr. Reed Lewis was reluctant to consent to.

I must not hide from your Lordship, however, that it is quite possible the Sultan may, through inherent ignorance or malevolent counsels, decline to accept, without attempting to introduce into it many modifications, the engagement, which is in reality an arbitration bond only requiring his Shereefian Majesty's approval. In such case I would despair of obtaining further concessions from Mr. Reed Lewis unless he was peremptorily ordered from Washington to grant them.

The failure to secure the settlement of the American claims by arbitration would, in my opinion, almost amount to a Moorish national calamity, for the Sultan's refusal to avail himself of the opportunity now offered to him would definitively shut out this weak country for the future from meeting unscrupulous demands and claims by offering to follow the same course which the United States had consented to abide by when its Consul tabulated his charges and claims against the Shereefian Government; whilst, if the arbitration is allowed to proceed, it will be most difficult hereafter for foreign countries so disposed to insist on being the sole judges of what the Moorish Government must submit to.

In the engagement to-day sent to the Moorish Court by the Acting Commissioner only ten days are accorded for its return here, duly ratified by the Sultan. The reason, however, being most unusual and inclement, whereby communications over this roadless country are rendered almost impracticable, I have secured a promise from Mr. Reed Lewis that, should untoward delay arise, through difficulties encountered by the couriers, in the receipt of the Sultan's ratifications, he will consent to prolong the stipulated term from ten to fifteen days.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 18.

Cid Emfadi Gharneet to Sir W. K. Green.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

I HAVE received your letter in which you inform me that you have conversed with the Naib Hadj Mohammed Torres on the settlement of the misunderstandings which have arisen between the American Consul and the officials of the Government at Tangier, owing to your having heard that an American frigate was expected to arrive in the port of Tangier in order to support the Consul in his demands. You say also that the Naib had assured you that right was on the side of the (Moorish) Government in those questions, but that as you saw that matters might end in the departure of the Consul from this country, and the enforcement of his claims, you advised the Naib to receive the Consul in a befitting manner when he should visit him with the Commander of the frigate in order to press his demands, and to tell the Consul that he would request the Sultan to submit these matters to a mutual friend, engaging beforehand to act upon the decision that should be given, or if no such mutual friend should be found, then each side should appoint a friend in order to examine into these matters, and you said that your object in doing this was to bring about an amicable arrangement between the two Governments.

I have communicated your letter to His Shereefian Majesty, who has taken cognizance of all you therein state. Your letter did not reach the Sultan until His Majesty had already received news of the arrival of the frigate on account of the claims of the American Consul. His Majesty has appointed the German Minister to examine into the pending questions, as Representative of His Shereefian Majesty, in conjunction with the person who may be named by the American Government from among the Representatives of the Powers at Tangier to represent their interests, and to bring about a solution agreeable with the Treaties. If, however, an agreement is come to between the American Consul and the Representatives of the Shereefian Government at Tangier to settle between themselves according to justice and Treaty, then such arrangement will be adhered to.

Peace.

Finished the 10th Rejeb, 1305.
(Signed)

MAHD. EL MAFADDAL BEN MOHD.
GHARNEET.

Inclosure 2 in No. 18.

Sir W. K. Green to Cid Emfadi Gharneet.

(Translation.)

(Private and Confidential.)

(After compliments.)

Tangier, March 7, 1888.

THIS morning I went and saw Cid Mohammed Zugary, and inquired of him as to the existing state of relations between the Moorish Government and the United States' Consul, for I had heard that to-day or to-morrow an American frigate would arrive here to support the Consul in enforcing his demands upon the Shereefian Government.

The Acting Commissioner for Foreign Affairs enumerated to me the questions which he knew, more or less, to be pending with the United States' Consul, and stated that he believed the Moorish Government had right on its side.

I said to the Naib that I would not enter into an examination of the merits of the pending questions, but I thought it would not be prudent, on the strength of believing it was in the right, that the Moorish Government should push matters to the length of permitting the United States' Consul to withdraw from the country. If this was to happen, perhaps American public opinion might force the United States' Government to exact the Consul's demands by force. It would be dangerous to go on the assumption that the United States' Government would not do so, for it was the Government in this world more under the control of the popular voice than any other.

Under these circumstances, I urged Cid Mohammed Zugary, when the United States' Consul and the Captain of the frigate came to call on him to press their demands on his attention, to receive them with extreme civility, and to offer to suggest to His Shereefian Majesty that all pending questions should be submitted to the consideration and decision of some mutual friend, or, if such a one could not be found, that each

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should name a friend, so that these two friends might come to an arrangement, which arrangement would have to be accepted and acted on as final by both the Moorish Government and the United States' Consul.

Cid Mohammed Zugary has promised to follow my advice, and I have reason to know that the United States' Consul will not refuse the proposal, so that I trust it will meet with the Sultan's approbation.

I may tell your Excellency, in confidence, that should the United States' Consul withdraw from Morocco, it is probable the United States' Government would then apply to a friendly Government to press its claims upon the attention of the Sultan. I think it would be prudent to avoid such a contingency, for the Government to which that of the United States is likely to apply may, in order to please the American people, use pressure upon the Sherrefian Government to accord unquestioned the United States' demands.

I have pointed out to the United States' Consul that it is absolutely due to the Sultan that he should have full time to consider the instructions which it may be needful to give to His Majesty's Acting Commissioner on these pending questions.

Peace

(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 18

Agreement signed by the American Consul and the Moorish Acting Commissioner for Foreign Affairs

THE Undersigned, Hadj Mohammed Zugary, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Sherrefian Majesty the Sultan of Morocco and William Reed Lewis, Consul of the United States of America for Morocco, for and in the name of their respective Governments, agree that all complaints, claims, and demands of the United States Government, its Representatives, citizens, and persons, against His Sherrefian Majesty, His Government, and subjects now pending or which may be presented not later than the 10th May, 1888, shall be adjusted by a Tribunal of two persons with one voice appointed by His Sherrefian Majesty and the Consul of the United States or his nominee. This Tribunal shall select from among the foreign Representatives of Tangier an Umpire, who shall not be required to attend the sittings of the Tribunal but shall determine and finally decide any and every matter upon which the Tribunal shall disagree. The Tribunal shall hold its sittings in the United States' Consulate at Tangier, and shall meet as soon as practicable, accomplishing its work by the 1st day of June, 1888, unless in the opinion of the Umpire a postponement is advisable, which postponement he may order for any fixed period within the year 1888; and all cases, if decided against His Sherrefian Majesty, his Government or subjects, shall be satisfied in full by His Sherrefian Majesty within thirty days of the rendering of the decision. It shall be in the power of this Tribunal to appoint a Sub-Committee of three to examine and finally determine by a majority vote all claims of robbery, debts, or credits referred to it by the Tribunal, which Sub-Committee shall furnish their Reports to the Tribunal as ordered by the Tribunal for presentation to be settled by His Sherrefian Majesty within thirty days. We, the Undersigned, therefore for and on behalf of our respective Governments, hereby bind ourselves and agree to abide by and ratify all judgments given by this Tribunal, or in the case of its disagreement by the Umpire, and to consider such judgments as final and complete. This arrangement shall be considered binding when it has been ratified by His Sherrefian Majesty, but the Consul of the United States will not be bound by it unless it is returned to Tangier so ratified on or before the 18th day of April, 1888.

Dated at Tangier this 7th day of April, 1888

Inclosure 4 in No. 18.

Sir W. K. Green to Cid Enfadl Uharneel.

(Translation)
(Confidential.)
(After compliments.)

Tangier, April 7, 1888.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's reply to my letter of the 7th of last month, which states that His Sherrefian Majesty had more or less acted on the suggestion made by me to refer the pending differences between the United

States' and Moorish Governments to the arbitration of mutual and impartial friends. I will not trouble your Excellency here with a long account of what has taken place within the last few days, or concerning the efforts to bring about an understanding between the Moorish Naib, Cid El Hadj Mohammed Zugary, and the United States' Consul, Mr. Reed Lewis. It is sufficient to say that there was a moment when I feared the American Consul misapprehended the fair intentions of the Sherrefian Government, and would consequently take further steps towards estrangement between the two Governments. However, a better spirit has moved Mr Reed Lewis, and he has accepted to the fullest extent the idea of submitting all pending questions to arbitration, and he has formulated the terms upon which such an arbitration may be carried out in the document which has now been signed between him and Hadj Mohammed Zugary.

Yet this document will not become valid until His Sherrefian Majesty has ratified it. Therefore, owing to the short time allowed by Mr. Reed Lewis for effecting such ratification, I now write to urge, in the strongest terms possible, the advisableness of the immediate acceptance by the Sultan of the American Consul's proposals concerning the arbitration.

These terms are not only, according to my opinion, conceived in a perfectly fair spirit, but they further establish a most precious precedent for the Moorish Government. The acceptance by the United States' Government of arbitration shows that it has no desire to force anything unjust on the Sherrefian Government. It takes it out of the power of its Consul to do so for it submits to the final decision of a person who will be chosen by both the interested parties for his undeniable impartiality and rectitude.

This advantage has never been before secured by the Moorish Government in its questions with foreign States. The Sultan has hitherto invariably submitted to threats of coercion. Now, in future, if he quickly accepts the arrangement proposed by Hadj Mohammed Zugary and Mr Reed Lewis, the Sultan, when being unduly pressed to satisfy claims which His Majesty considers unfair, (the Sherrefian Government) will always be able to ask that the Government claiming payment or satisfaction shall accept the same conditions which the great and strong Government and people of the United States had found it just to acknowledge and abide by.

If hesitation is shown by the Sultan to act upon my advice, an early future will prove the lamentable fault which will have been committed.

Peace

(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN

No. 19.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 16.)

(No. 48. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 8, 1888.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 47, Confidential, of this day's date, I venture to report, for your Lordship's information, that, should the proposed arbitration of American claims be accepted by the Sultan, Mr. Reed Lewis has already intimated to the Acting Commissioner for Foreign Affairs that he would consider both the French and Spanish Ministers as being barred from acting as Umpire in the arbitration, from the fact that France and Spain assume to have special interests in this country through being its neighbours.

I, on my side, have told Cid El Hadj Mohammed Zugary that, the case arising, I should ask your Lordship not to authorize me to act as Umpire on the ground that the large British communities in Morocco, and the important commercial and other interests we hold here, render it advisable that I should confine my action, as much as possible, to matters directly concerning those communities and interests.

I understand that Mr Reed Lewis also holds certain objections to Herr Travers being the Umpire. He is perfectly cognizant of the improbability that the German Minister would exercise in the matter, but Mr Reed Lewis believes that Herr Travers would, through his weak state of health, be unable to give entire personal attention to the questions that would come before him, and that, consequently, he would have to rely for assistance on the Dragoman of the German Legation, who is a Syrian, and supposed, by public repute, to be unduly under the influence of the Moorish Government.

Under these circumstances, the choice of an Umpire would have to be made from among the Italian, Belgian, Portuguese, and Austrian Representatives. The two latter, for various reasons, would probably be rejected by both sides. Thus, either Signor

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(No right of Breton Whettnall would be the only Representatives eligible for selection. Both, I feel convinced, would conscientiously discharge the onerous duty, but Signor Canigala, through having arrived in the country so recently, and through occupying a necessarily more nominal position than the Belgian Minister, would undoubtedly carry more weight should he be named the Empire.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 20.

Sir Clive Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury - Received April 16.

(No 58. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Madrid, 12/11, 1889

WITH reference to my despatch No. 48 of the 24th ultimo, in which I informed your Lordship that the proposed paper from Señor Moret, containing his suggestions with regard to the modification of the proposed Convention of Madrid of 1880 on Moorish affairs, was, for other reasons, I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that the document is published in detail.

Last night I received a private note from Señor Moret, in which he enclosed the draft of the paper, copy of which he stated, he had handed to M. Cambon, the French Ambassador, who returned to Madrid from Paris, with the original of the document.

Before returning the paper to Señor Moret I perused it carefully and made a translation of it which I have the honour to enclose to your Lordship, and trust in a few days to have an opportunity of seeing his Excellency, having a conversation with him on a proposed modification of the Madrid Convention of 1880.

Señor Moret, in the document which he has drawn up, commencing by stating that in order to avoid a recurrence taking place of the abuses of the protection of natives by foreigners in Morocco, it is necessary to adopt what he terms a system of guarantees. He is in favour of applying the 1st Article of the Madrid Convention of 1880, which limited the conditions of protection as being based on certain Treaties, and would wish to see it substituted by a fresh Article stipulating that as regards protection no previous arrangement shall be hereafter taken into account.

I may observe that it is hardly likely the French Government would agree to this, for, as your Lordship will recollect, in M. Fleury's telegram to M. Cambon of the 11th February last (copy of which was received in my despatch No. 48, Confidential of the 24th ultimo), it was stated that, in the opinion of the French Government, Señor Moret seemed to think that the programme for the Conference was laid down in the Moorish note of the 16th August, 1887, as the French Government felt that the Treaties and the arrangements of 1880 which had been concluded with Morocco.

Señor Moret then proceeds in the document he has drawn up to pass in review the various Articles of the Madrid Convention of 1880 and to point out certain points on which need revision. He proposes that any protection given to natives should be the privilege attaching to the protection when given to natives in the service of the Representative of the foreign nation who may have employed him, whether as a contractor or as a private matter. By this means Señor Moret proposes that two points will be gained: (1) that it will ensure better behaviour on the part of the natives protected; and the second that the natives who may have acquired the privileges pertaining to protection through a temporary, or what he calls an "accidental," employment will lose them with the loss of their employment, and thus will be come away with the system which has crept in of protection of a permanent character.

Señor Moret would not propose to include Article V, which treats of the natives who had been protected by foreign Representatives and Consular officials in Morocco.

As regards Article VI, which refers to the Bencharaf family, whose protection is hereditary, Señor Moret would propose that that family should be placed under the subject of a separate Article.

Articles VII and VIII come in Señor Moret's paper under the category of guarantees, where it is his desire to increase the number. He suggests that on the first day of each year, a detailed list of protected natives should be supplied to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, by whom it is to be published, and he thinks proper. This list should contain the reasons on which protection has been granted to each native and in each particular case respectively. All changes which may occur in the course of the year are proposed to be notified to the Moorish

Government. Señor Moret also recommends that stringent rules should be observed by protected natives, such as being provided with documents proving their identity and their right to claim the privileges attaching to protection.

Señor Moret suggests that Article IX should be preceded by a declaration, to the effect that protection is to be considered as applicable to an individual, but is not to be interpreted in a "collective" form.

The application of such a rule would, of course, prevent such abuses as those practised by the French in according protection to the Sherref of Wazan and a large number of his followers.

Señor Moret attaches especial importance on a modification being effected in Article X which refers to brokers, or "censaux," as they are termed in French.

The abuses which have arisen through an improper use made of the terms of Article X have, he considers, been very considerable. He would on no account permit these brokers to be employed in the interior of the country, and even when employed in the seaports and cities of Morocco, he would have their position strictly limited and the exercise of their duties clearly regulated.

Señor Moret would feel inclined to amend Article X altogether as it now stands, and to substitute for it another Article in the above sense. It does not credit these brokers to foreign merchants, and, he considers, he ought to be under strict supervision, and the brokers should be made subject to Moorish jurisdiction in all cases in which legal proceedings may be taken against them, the effect of the amendment of the article being that the brokers should be made subject to the jurisdiction of the Moorish Government. Señor Moret likewise recommends that, under certain circumstances, the commercial transactions entered into by brokers should be open to supervision on the part of the Consular officials, and that also the brokers should cease to enjoy the privileges of protection when once they have completed the services for which they only happen to have been engaged.

No contracts for rent of land, &c., made by foreigners with natives should be binding, he considers as valid, without they have previously received the sanction of the Moorish authority.

Señor Moret's further proposal that Article XI, relative to the question of naturalization, requires considerable revision. In his proposal Moorish subjects living in Morocco should be regarded as naturalized subjects of a foreign country without the usual proof that he has previously obtained the consent of his Government to effect the naturalization in question.

As regards Article XVI, Señor Moret would abolish all protection to be accorded to natives in recompense for services rendered to foreigners.

I cannot help thinking that this recommendation would meet with little favour in the eyes of the French Government.

Thus, your Lordship will perceive that the principal points touched upon by Señor Moret refer to (1) curbing the protection system as given to brokers, and (2) to modifying the practice by which, at present, many Moorish subjects become naturalized abroad.

There is still another point to notice, and it is one which was not touched upon at the Madrid Conference held in 1880. It refers to the establishment at Tangier of a Tribunal to be composed of Consular Agents, and to be presided over by a foreign Representative having the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary. The duties of this Tribunal, according to Señor Moret, would be to see that any fresh rules which may be made relating to the protection question are properly carried out.

Señor Moret concludes his remarks by suggesting, that in the event of the abuses which are complained of in the protection question being redressed the Sultan of Morocco should be called upon to pledge himself (1) to subject the persons who, having formerly enjoyed the privileges of protection, may now find themselves deprived of them to any treatment, (2) to take immediate steps to organize a more efficient system of judicial reform, and (3) to provide for the commercial development of his Empire.

The above is a short sketch of Señor Moret's paper, and I should feel greatly obliged if I could be favoured with your Lordship's opinion on the subjects therein treated.

I may mention that Señor Moret is silent with regard to Article XI of the Madrid Convention of 1880 respecting the right accorded to foreigners to acquire real property in Morocco.

I understand that except in the town of Tangier, the Moorish Government have opposed the terms of the Article being put into operation.

Again, it does not appear to me that Señor Moret has laid sufficient stress on the

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commercial questions. Considering the dilatory manner which past experience has shown us, in which the Moorish Government approaches the subject of commercial relations with Great Britain it would be well if His Serene Highness were to be called upon to fix a date at a reasonable period of time when he would be prepared seriously to enter into negotiations for the new Commercial Treaty which Her Majesty's Government are desirous of concluding with the Government of Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

Inclosure in No. 20.

Notes by Señor Moret on the Morocco Conference.

Translation.)

THE Agreements come to in 1880 are not the cause of the grave abuses which have grown up beneath the shadow of the protection system. If the measures taken at that time had been strictly carried out and faithfully observed the abuses which the Powers then sought to correct would have disappeared, while those which have been latterly brought to their notice would not have come into existence. What is wanted now is a system of guarantees, or rather a series of sanctions, which, on the one hand, will prevent the nations of Europe from going beyond their recognized powers, and on the other, will afford to the Moorish Government the means of preventing these abuses without necessarily occasioning disputes, or having recourse to fresh Diplomatic Conferences.

It would, nevertheless, not be prudent to proceed to a reform of the protection system without modifying some of the Articles of the Conference of 1880, which contain the germ of the evils which we wish to remedy. In order, then, to fix the points of discussion, we will take as basis the Articles of the Conference of 1880.

Article I. This Article should disappear, and another, drawn up in the following terms, be substituted:

"Article I. The object of the present Convention being the definitive and complete settlement of the protection system in Morocco, no previous arrangement can be hereafter cited or taken into account."

Articles II, III, and IV. With regard to protected persons of the first class, i.e., persons who are in the service or directly dependent on foreign Representatives (Consuls, Vice-Consuls, &c.), the II^d, III^d and IVth Articles are sufficiently clear, and do not require special modification. They might nevertheless be drawn up anew in order to avoid repetitions, and to determine in a precise manner that all protected persons of this class enjoy the most complete jurisdictional immunity, as well as exemption from all customs duties and taxes, save, the exceptions mentioned in Articles XII and XIII.

At the same time, the following reports or declarations should be made:

1. That none of the persons declared in the Articles in question to have a right to protection may continue to enjoy it after they have ceased to be in the service of the Representative of a foreign nation, if the Representative does not make a special declaration to this effect to the Moorish authorities, and

2. That natives engaged in the temporary discharge of Consular functions shall only enjoy protection during the period during which they are invested with such functions.

The object of the first of these declarations is the strengthening of the authority of the foreign Representatives, by making the natives who enter their service understand that if any fault is committed by them, they will not only cease to be in their service, but will be absolutely subject to the local jurisdiction.

The second declaration is intended to prevent the abuse arising from appointments, of a temporary and purely accidental character, of Consular Agents, being the occasion and origin of perpetual privileges of protection.

Article V. This Article calls for no special consideration.

Article VI. Article VI should end with the third paragraph, where it is said "Protection is not hereditary." All that refers to the Bencaimol family, as well as to protected persons of the same class, ought to appear in a special Article.

Articles VII and VIII. Articles VII and VIII are of the number of those which can be considered as guarantees, and on this account they are deserving of special attention, and should be drawn up in more explicit terms. The following is proposed:—

"Articles VII and VIII. Foreign Representatives shall, on the 1st January every year, send to the Sultan's Minister for Foreign Affairs a list of the persons respectively

protected by them throughout the territories of the Empire, with a note in each case of all that serves to distinguish them and prevent confusion of the individuals concerned, as well as a statement of the reasons for which protection was accorded to them."

Any changes which may occur in the course of the year shall be specially communicated.

No protection shall be valid, nor shall the Moorish authorities be bound to respect it, if the person who invokes it does not figure in these lists, and if the document which such person carries as a proof of his being a protected individual is not signed by the Representative of highest rank of the nation who protects him.

The Sultan's Minister for Foreign Affairs shall have the right of publishing the lists delivered to him.

Article IX. This Article should be preceded by the following declaration:—"Protection is always an individual, and in no case a collective privilege;" and at the termination of the Article a declaration drawn up in the following terms ought to be inserted:—"In the two preceding cases the notice given to the Diplomatic or Consular authority shall not have the effect of suspending or of retarding trials. The object of it is solely to provide for the notification of the fact to the Diplomatic or Consular authority in order that, if it is thought necessary, such intervention in the trial may take place as may be deemed most expedient."

Article X. This Article is that of highest interest, and is that which has in reality produced all the abuses brought to the notice of the Powers as contrary to the Agreements come to at the Madrid Conference. In order that there may be no repetition of these abuses, the suppression of the Article and the substitution of the following are proposed:—

"Article X. Foreign merchants carrying on export and import trade in Morocco on a great scale, or who are trading on commission on their own account, have the right of selecting in the principal cities of the Empire, but never amongst the rural population, agents or brokers ("censaux"), charged with the duty of representing them in their transactions with the natives."

The right of selecting a protecting party shall be limited to two "censaux" in each port or city in which the merchant has an establishment.

The licence is secured to these persons to such an extent that it will be always used by the foreign Representative of the country of his naturalization, who will not authorize them (the documents) without being perfectly certain that the merchants fulfil all the conditions which have been mentioned in the first paragraph.

The office of "censaux" does not exclude natives from local jurisdiction, to which they will always be amenable, but in case they are summoned before the Tribunals, those Tribunals will notify at once the fact to the corresponding Consular authority, in order that it may intervene in the matter.

Article X, bis. The commercial negotiations which may be carried out by the agents, or "censaux" will be amenable to the jurisdiction of the Consular authority, that is to say, whenever they possess registered books for that purpose and controlled by the Consuls, and in which are set down the business which has been done for them by their agents. The privileges of the "censaux" terminate when the commissions for which they have been accorded come to an end.

Article X, ter. In order to prevent the abuses which have taken place with regard to the renting of land, its cultivation and cattle breeding, the following rules will be observed: none of the rent contracts, associations for the breeding of cattle, or mortgages of land or of cattle shall be held as valid when they are entered into between natives and foreigners, or protected foreigners, if the document in which such transactions are recorded have not been copied and registered in the archives of the corresponding Consulate, and, moreover, have been sanctioned by the Cadi or local Moorish authority. It will be incumbent on the Consular Agent to assure himself of the exactitude of the declarations which are made in such documents.

Every Agreement made between Europeans and natives which has not been submitted to such formality will be considered null and void by the Tribunals which have the right to examine such matters.

Articles XII and XIII. The Articles XII and XIII do not require any modification, except those of excluding from them whatever may relate to the question of "censaux."

Article XIII can be drawn up again in agreement with the Moorish Plenipotentiary, in view of the modifications which have taken place in the tax known under the name of "gate tax."

Article XIV. Article XIV ought to be annulled altogether.

Article XV. The Article XV is one of the most important, and which has led to

the greatest abuses. It ought to be drawn up in analogous forms to those declarations which have been accepted by the principal Powers of Europe with regard to naturalization.

These naturalizations should not be considered valid without the consent of the Government of the country of origin of the person seeking the naturalization. If this rule is applied to the Empire of Morocco, every difficulty would disappear.

A subject of Morocco who might wish to obtain foreign naturalization would only have to communicate the fact to his Government, and should his Government refuse such consent, his naturalization could not take place. Under such conditions, it is clear that should the subject return to Morocco, he would maintain his rights; but in the contrary case, that is to say, if the previous naturalization had not been approved of by the Sultan, the subject, on returning to his country, would assume his former position, and would be subject to the jurisdiction of his country.

Article XVI. The Article XVI cannot be tolerated any longer. The only form of proceeding would be to adopt a list to be annexed to the Protocols of the Conference, in which the names and numbers of the individual parties should be set down as regards those persons who, when the 1880 Conference was held, had a right to protection, or who may have acquired that right after having carried out the stipulations contained in the said Article XVI. This Article will be substituted by a declaration, in which, after having set forth the two above-mentioned points, will state, "that for the future no such protections will be allowed."

Additional Declarations

On signing the Protocol, the Powers will solicit of the Sultan of Morocco the following declarations:

1. The Sultan engages that no Moorish subject, who may have already enjoyed the right of protection, should be held liable for any act which he may have committed during the period when he enjoyed the privilege of protection.

2. The Sultan will enter into an engagement with foreign Powers to administer, promptly and rightly, justice in his dominions, establishing to that effect Native Tribunals which will perform their functions not only in towns, but in country places as well.

3. The Sultan of Morocco engages to modify, with the least delay possible, the legislation of his country relating to commercial matters, in order to extend to European nations the means of developing their economical relations with the Empire; and should he desire to carry out that engagement by means of Commercial Treaties, he will nominate, as soon as possible, Commissioners to negotiate with the European Representatives.

Establishment of a Tribunal of Guarantees.

Article 1. A Tribunal will be established in Tangier, composed of all the Consular Agents (or of six Consular Agents in turn). The President will be a Minister Plenipotentiary for a period of three months, and will fall upon the different Ministers Plenipotentiary according to their seniority.

Art. 2. The function of this Tribunal will be to watch over the exact carrying out of the present Convention, and will take cognizance exclusively of those claims which may arise with regard to the exercise of the right of protection.

Art. 3. When claims are raised by Moorish subjects, the claim and the documents in support of it will be presented to the Tribunal by His Shercofian Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs. When they are presented by foreign subjects or by protected natives, they will be presented by the respective Consular Agents.

All the sentences and Resolutions of the Tribunal will be communicated in writing to the Sultan's Minister for Foreign Affairs, who will have the right to publish them in full.

No. 21

Sir J. Simon, M.P., to Foreign Office.—(Received April 16.)

Sir,

36, Tavistock Square, April 15, 1888.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, conveying to me the result of the inquiry which the Marquis of Salisbury was good enough to make into the case of the widow Attias, of Tangier, and which formed the subject of my

question in the House of Commons, and of my letter of the 28th February last. I beg to thank his Lordship most sincerely for his kindness and promptitude in the matter.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) JNO. SIMON.

No. 22.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Simon.

(No. 27.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 16, 1888.

THE Italian Chargé d'Affaires at this Court called at the Foreign Office on the 14th instant, to read a telegram which he had received from the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The substance of Signor Crispi's telegram is as follows:—

In consequence of a request which the Sultan of Morocco had addressed to the Italian Government prior to the events of last year, and to which the latter had acceded, though they thought its realization should be deferred, three Italian officers are proceeding to Tangier, where they will arrive on the 17th of this month, for the purpose of placing themselves at the disposal of the Moorish Government to devote themselves to the creation of an arsenal and to other measures of military instruction. Signor Crispi has instructed the Italian Minister at Tangier to give all details to his British colleague, and to beg the latter to inform Her Majesty's Government. His Excellency, however, requested M. Catalani to acquaint me directly with the matter, in the assurance that I should view with pleasure the preference given by the Sultan to the Italian army.

I expressed my thanks to M. Catalani on his calling at the Foreign Office to-day, and assured him of the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the choice of advisers made by His Shercofian Majesty.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 23.

Sir Clara Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 17, 8 A.M.)

(No. 4.)

(Telegraphic.)

Madrid, April 16, 1888, 6.45 P.M.

YOUR telegram No. 5.

This telegram must have been sent before my despatch No. 56 of the 11th could have reached you. That despatch contained a translation of certain additional examinations which were embodied in a paper drawn up by Señor Moret, headed "Morocco Conference."

Señor Moret informed me last evening that a copy of this document had already been sent to Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, by whom its contents will be communicated to Sultan of Morocco. Consequently, if His Majesty consents to a Delegate being sent to the Conference, His Majesty will understand that his Representative must be armed with instructions to meet all eventualities.

As to the condition that the Sultan should be made to understand that the resolutions of the Conference respecting protection should be made conditional on His Majesty's conceding what is asked of him, Minister for Foreign Affairs considers that that point is covered by the terms which he proposes to employ in his formula fixing a day on which the Conference might meet; and he is of opinion that it would serve no practical end to state to the Sultan before the meeting that any agreement come to in Conference would only be signed in a conditional form.

No. 24.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received April 18.)

Sir,

Admiralty, April 17, 1888.

WITH reference to your letters of the 11th and 14th instant, relative to the visit of the Sultan of Morocco to Tangier, and of the Queen Regent of Spain to Barcelona,

respectively, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to state, for the information of the Marquis of Salisbury, that directions have been given to Admiral His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to make the necessary arrangements for the squadron under His Royal Highness' command to be at Barcelona on the 15th May next.

2. The presence of the squadron at Barcelona will prevent His Royal Highness visiting Gibraltar until after the 15th May, but in the event of the Sultan of Morocco being at Tangier during the period the squadron remains at Gibraltar, His Royal Highness has been directed to pay a visit to His Sherrefian Majesty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

No. 25.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 64. Confidential.)

Sir,
Foreign Office, April 19, 1888.
WITH reference to my despatch No. 41, Confidential, of the 3rd ultimo, I transmit to your Excellency the accompanying translation of the instructions which the Italian Government propose to address to their Representative at the Madrid Conference on the affairs of Morocco, together with a draft Convention to amend the Madrid Convention of 1880.* These papers have been communicated to me by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires at this Court, who has asked the opinion of Her Majesty's Government upon them.

The account of the recent negotiations which is contained in Parts I and II of the proposed instructions is not free from inaccuracies, and it may be well here to observe, with regard to section 3 (p. 3 of print), that Señor Moret expressed anxiety that no allusion should be made in the Conference to the Collective Note of the 11th March, nor to the Moorish reply of the 16th August (or 15th August, according to the Italian instructions), which he considered should be kept secret, especially from France.

I may draw your attention to the following errors of fact in Parts I and II:—

(1.) With regard to the end of section 3 of the Italian instructions (p. 4 of print), the *modus procedendi* of the Conference was suggested by the Spanish Government (as will be seen from my despatch to your Excellency No. 161 A of the 26th October last), and it was after the receipt of the explanation of the Spanish Government that Her Majesty's Government consented to the invited form of invitation to the Conference.

The position of Her Majesty's Government was explained by your Excellency to Señor Moret, as recorded in your despatch No. 172 of the 11th December and that explanation was repeated to M. Catalani.

It is not accurate, therefore, to describe the *modus procedendi* as a British proposal, nor is it accurate to state that "if the Sherrefian Representative should ask the Powers to give a guarantee of the integrity of the Empire, England should support this demand in a resolute manner."

Her Majesty's Government objected strongly to guarantee the integrity of Morocco, but they advocated an engagement of the Powers to respect it.

(2.) With regard to the last line of paragraph 5 of section 7 of the instructions (p. 6 of print), Her Majesty's Government did not propose that all other questions relating to Morocco should be discussed in the Conference, but such other questions as commercial concessions and the possession of power in Morocco by its present holders which would be affected by a modification of the Madrid Convention of 1880.

(3.) With regard to section 10 of the Italian instructions (p. 6 of print), Her Majesty's Government have not engaged to take the initiative in raising in the Conference the "Integrity" question.

Her Majesty's Government would certainly not, as I have observed above, propose a "guarantee" of the integrity of Morocco.

At an interview which I had with M. Catalani on the 14th instant, after thanking him for the communication of the Instructions and draft Convention, I called his attention to the points above mentioned, and also took exception to so much of Article IX of the draft Convention as provides that all transactions by the "censeaux" are to be entered in a book and signed by the Consuls (p. 16 of print).

Subject, however, to these points, I said that, so far as I could judge, there was nothing to object to in the proposed instructions, but I added that Her Majesty's

* Not printed.

Government must reserve their definite opinion until they have seen all the Reports and proposals.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 26.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 40. Confidential.)

Sir,
Foreign Office, April 20, 1888.
I HAVE received your despatch No. 47, Confidential, of the 8th instant, and I have to convey to you my entire approval of your judicious and energetic efforts, as reported therein, to bring about an amicable settlement of the questions at issue between the Moorish Government and the United States' Consul at Tangier.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 27.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 41. Confidential.)

Sir,
Foreign Office, April 20, 1888.
I HAVE received your despatch No. 48, Confidential, of the 8th instant, and I have to convey to you my concurrence in the opinion which you express therein, that it is not desirable that you should assume, if asked to do so, the office of umpire in the proposed arbitration between the Moorish Government and the United States' Consul at Tangier.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 28.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 21.)

(No. 49. Confidential.)

My Lord,
Tangier, April 13, 1888.
SIGNOR CANTAGALLI, the Italian Minister, called on me this morning, and stated that he had been instructed by Signor Crispi to communicate to me, for your Lordship's information, that on the 17th instant three Italian military officers would arrive here in order to enter the Sultan's service.

Two of these officers belong to the artillery, the senior being a Lieutenant-colonel, and the third is a technical officer, which, I understand, means that he is a machinist.

Signor Cantagalli has further informed me that the loan of these officers to the Sultan had been arranged with the Italian Government by his predecessor, the late Signor Scovasse, and that the officers are to erect and manage a small arms factory which Mula Hassan has long been anxious to establish at the City of Morocco.

From the Moorish Court I learn that the French Commandant who is at the head of the French Military Mission attached to the Sultan's army, has been recalled, and is shortly to be replaced by another officer of the same rank. The French Engineer officer who was recently sent to superintend the Mint at Fez, I understand, is also to leave, and will be replaced by another French officer.

I have had no hesitation in promising Signor Cantagalli to recommend the Italian officers to Khed Maclean, who, I feel sure, will receive them with every attention and afford them invaluable advice and assistance for successfully assuming the positions to which they have been called.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 6.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, April 21, 1888.

YOUR telegram No 4 and your despatch No. 56, containing additional declarations.

Her Majesty's Government cannot sign Protocol modifying Protection Convention and rely for counter-concessions on vague promises of commercial and judicial reform. These reforms should be discussed and settled at the Conference, and embodied in the Protocol.

Her Majesty's Government consider that Señor Moret should prepare the Sultan for this before issuing the invitations.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 68. Text.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, April 21, 1888.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 56, Confidential, of the 11th instant, enclosing Señor Moret's Memorandum containing his suggestions with regard to the modifications which he proposed to effect in the Madrid Convention of 1880, as well as your telegram No. 4 of the 10th instant on the same subject.

Señor Moret appears to consider that the "additional declarations" which accompany his Memorandum will carry out the understanding on which Her Majesty's Government consented to the limited form of invitation to the Conference.

By that understanding, as your Excellency will see on referring to my despatch No. 157 of the 25th October last, and to the inclosure to your despatch No. 141 of the 3rd November following, the Sultan of Morocco was to be informed by Spain before the meeting of the Conference, that the modification of the Protection Convention would be conditional on His Sheressian Majesty's giving security for the proper treatment of foreigners and on his granting commercial concessions. But, according to his present proposal, Señor Moret would after the signing of the Protocol modifying the Madrid Convention, ask the Sultan to pledge himself to the concessions stated in the "declarations."

If this course were followed, the modification of protection would not be conditional on the Sultan's concessions, and the course proposed would not necessarily raise the integrity question in the Conference.

I have, therefore, to request your Excellency to inform Señor Moret that Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to sign a Protocol modifying the Madrid Convention of 1880, and to rely for counter-concessions on vague promises of commercial and judicial reform. These reforms should be discussed and settled at the Conference, and embodied in the Protocol modifying the Convention of 1880.

Her Majesty's Government consider that Señor Moret should inform the Sultan before issuing the invitations that this course will be followed at the Conference, in order that His Sheressian Majesty's Representative may be furnished with instructions accordingly.

The substance of the foregoing has this day been communicated to your Excellency by telegraph.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 8. Treaty.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, April 23, 1888.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 2, Treaty, of the 12th instant, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter from the Board of Admiralty relative to the movements of the Mediterranean Squadron.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

Memorandum by Mr. Oakes respecting Sir G. Baden-Powell's Question for April 24, 1888.

MESSRS SCICLUNA AND TAJAR brought a claim before the Sfax Indemnity Commission in 1881, on account of the destruction of 1,500 tons of esparto and other losses during the insurrection and the subsequent bombardment of Sfax by the French forces.

The total sum claimed by them was 9,040l., of which sum 7,500l. was on account of the esparto destroyed.

The Commission suggested that a sum of 240,000 piastres (Tunisian), equal to about 6,000l., should be awarded to the claimants.

The Commission, after having assessed the amounts of the various foreign claims, was abruptly terminated by the withdrawal of the French Member of the Commission before its labours were completed; but on the case of the claimants being pressed by Her Majesty's Government on the French Government, the latter eventually announced (7th April, 1883, from Lord Lyons) that the Tunisian Government had made arrangements for paying the Sfax indemnity shortly, and that the sums fixed by the Commission would be paid in full. Accordingly, on the 10th April, 1883 (Print, Confidential No. 4862, p. 51), a Beylical Decree was published, which ordered that the sums awarded by the International Commission as indemnity for losses consequent on the bombardment of Sfax should be paid to the respective claimants in two instalments, the first to be payable on the 15th May, 1883.

A list of the claimants and of the sums awarded was annexed to the Decree, the names of Messrs. Scicluna and Tajar being set down for the amount of 150,000 fr., the equivalent in French money for the 240,000 piastres awarded by the Commission.

The Commission, it may be mentioned, was an international one, this country being represented on it by Captain Trevelyan, R.N.

With regard to the claim of Messrs. Scicluna and Tajar in respect of their losses at Gabes, it appears that a Commission sat at Gabes on the 10th April, 1883, to inquire into their claim, which was allowed with a reduction, 23,000 fr. being awarded to Scicluna and Tajar (besides 5,000 fr. awarded to the firm of Scicluna and Son). But this award was disallowed by the French Ministry of War as having been granted without the production of documentary evidence in support of the alleged losses, and another Commission was ordered to sit on the 27th August, 1883. This Commission reduced the 5,000 fr. awarded to Scicluna and Son to a nominal sum, and rejected the claim of Scicluna and Tajar, and they should produce proofs of their losses (M. S. Twiss, No. 2, Commercial, of the 15th January, 1886).

In November 1885, Messrs. Scicluna and Tajar appealed to Her Majesty's Government, through the Governor of Malta (Colonial Office, 29th December, 1885), to obtain compensation for them on account of their losses at Gabes, when they stated that they could produce proofs of their losses.

On the 2nd February, 1886, Lord Lyons was requested to bring the matter to the notice of the French Government, with a view to its being settled by arbitration, as, owing to an apparent misunderstanding, it had not been brought before Sir A. Danga and M. de Bignonères when those gentlemen met at Paris for the purpose of settling all outstanding British claims.

The French Government replied that if the claimants would produce the necessary documents, they would be submitted to the competent authority, who would examine them in the most friendly spirit (Lord Lyons, No. 163 of the 9th April, 1886).

Consul Sandwith was instructed accordingly.

The Colonial Office were informed 2nd February, 1886, that an application had been made to the French Government, but without much hope that they would consent to reopen the case, and they were requested to direct the claimants to put themselves in communication with Consul Sandwith.

No further correspondence passed on the subject until the 16th August, 1887, when Consul Sandwith wrote to state that after frequent applications to the French Minister Resident, who had sent the documents furnished to him to the French Government, he had at length been informed that the claim was disallowed.

The French Government were then asked by Mr. Egerton what was being done in the matter, to which inquiry M. Fleurens replied on the 17th September, 1887, that the facts alleged by the claimants could not in strict law be considered as giving them a right to indemnity, relating, as they did, to acts of war, which could not by international law, except under circumstances foreign to the present case, throw on a

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Government pecuniary responsibility, and that the Council of State had recently confirmed this view in a similar case. He added that it was, therefore, only as a favour that the claim could be entertained; but seeing that the claimants, who had suffered losses at Sfax, received a considerable sum in indemnification, their case was not more worthy of consideration than that of others who had suffered from the action of the French troops in Tunis, and their request could not, therefore, be acceded to. (Mr. Egerton, No. 306 of the 17th September, 1887.)

Consul Sandwith was informed of this decision on the 36th September, 1887, and directed to communicate it to the claimants.

(Signed) A. H. OAKES.

Foreign Office, April 23, 1888.

No. 33

Question asked in the House of Commons, April 23, 1888.

Sir George Baden-Powell.—To ask the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether Messrs. Scicluna and Tajar, British subjects resident in Malta, have for some time been endeavouring to obtain from the French Government compensation for injuries to their property in Gabes, consequent on the operations of the French military and naval forces:

Whether a French Commission awarded damages for similar injuries at Sfax for 7,000 fr., which was paid by the French Government.

Whether a French Commission assessed the damages for injuries at Gabes for 1,120 fr., but the case was ordered to be reopened.

Whether the French Government now allege that the compensation awarded by the French Commission at Sfax was in excess of the damage done, and that the plaintiffs should be content not to press similar claims for similar injuries inflicted at Gabes:

And, whether, as the question in dispute is one not of principle but of amount of damages, Her Majesty's Government will invite the French Government now to proceed to a final settlement by arbitration or other suitable means.

Answer

The general facts of the case, as known to Her Majesty's Government, are in accordance with the question of my honourable friend, although the figures stated by him are not, as I believe, correct.

Her Majesty's Government are not of opinion that the case is one which they could further press with propriety. I shall be happy to communicate its history to my honourable friend; but it is too long to state on the present occasion.

No. 34

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green

(No. 43. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 25, 1888.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 19, Confidential, of the 13th instant, upon the subject of the Mission of the three Italian officers who were to arrive at Tangier on the 17th instant, and who would enter the service of the Sultan of Morocco.

I have to convey to you my approval of your promise to your Italian colleague, to recommend the officers in question to Kaid Maclean.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 35.

Foreign Office to Anglo-Jewish Association.

Foreign Office, April 25, 1888.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of the further letter of the 23rd ultimo, signed by you as Vice-President of the Anglo-Jewish Association, and by Mr. A. Cohen as President of the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews, in regard to the condition of the Jewish inhabitants of Morocco.

I am to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, who, as you were informed by the letter from this Office of the 22nd February, had been instructed to furnish a Report upon the matters to which you had called attention, has addressed a despatch to Lord Salisbury, of which the following is the general purport:—

That the Maroquine Jews occupy a disadvantageous position as compared with their Mussulman fellow-subjects is, Sir W. K. Green observes, a notorious fact, and it is as abundantly clear that a change in the existing state of things is most desirable. But to effect at once all that is suggested and recommended by the British Jews, Sir W. K. Green considers that a violent revolution would have to be faced, whilst he can vouch from personal recollections, dating back thirty years, that a slower, though safer, process is in course of development, whereby apparently all that is sought for will be ultimately attained.

However much the Jews of the present generation may believe themselves oppressed, the amelioration in their condition has been such as to exceed the greatest expectations which could have been entertained, and he believes that matters will so continue to progress until perfect equality is established between all Moorish subjects.

When Sir W. K. Green was travelling through Morocco last spring, on his way to and from the Sherroslan Court, he was careful to ask at each town and village where Jewish communities existed as to how they were being treated by the local authorities, and he states that he invariably received the assurance of Rabbis, Elders, and others, that, with the exception of a few isolated instances, the Jews were in the enjoyment of perfect safety and of as much freedom as they craved for.

Sir W. K. Green does not believe that the abolition of Consular protection would expose the lives and property of non-Mahomedan bodies to greater risks at the hands of Moorish officials.

There are, it is stated, 800,000 Jews in Morocco, of whom about 500 only are under foreign protection. The abolition of protection would not, therefore, affect the well-being of the vast majority of Moorish Jews, and would probably work to their advantage.

The Sultan, he observes, is more ready to listen to diplomatic representations made to him on behalf of oppressed Jews than to demands based on strained interpretations of the Madrid Convention regarding protégés. The abolition of Consular protection might affect the private interests of a few Jewish merchants, but it would immensely strengthen the action of the foreign Representatives when put in motion for the advantage of the whole body of the 800,000 Maroquine Jews, or for some special Jewish community.

I am to inclose a separate Memorandum containing Sir W. K. Green's replies and observations on some of the principal disabilities which, it has been stated, affect the Jews in Morocco,* and I am to state, in conclusion, that the subject is receiving the careful attention of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE

* Inclosure 2 in Sir W. K. Green's No. 39, March 20, 1888.

*The Marquis of Salisbury to the Earl of Lytton.**

(No. 223. Most Confidential.)

Foreign Office, April 26, 1888.

My Lord,

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, copies of correspondence, as marked in the margin,† which has passed in the year 1887 in regard to the affairs of Morocco.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 37

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 30.)

(No. 51. Very Confidential.)

Tangier, April 20, 1888.

My Lord,

With reference to my despatch No. 48, Confidential, of the 13th instant, I have the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that the Italian officers who are about to enter the Sultan's service were landed here on the 17th from one of the large Italian South American packets, which brought them expressly to Tangier from Genoa, and that the officers have to-day started for the Moorish Court at Mequinez, accompanied by Signor Gentili, the first Dragoman of the Italian Legation.

The object of the parade which has been made by the Italian Government in the dispatch to Morocco of these officers, as well as in other similar small matters, is rather inexplicable to me.

The acceptance of such favours by the Sultan does not mean any real increase of Italian influence. On the contrary, His Majesty probably believes that by having officers of various nationalities to instruct his troops he insures his army from undue influence in any one particular direction. There can be no doubt, however, that the present introduction of Italians at the Moorish Court is calculated to produce great irritation among Frenchmen. In fact, I look upon the step, if followed up by a few others of the same nature, as highly calculated to precipitate French action with regard to this country.

Italian interests in Morocco are purely abstract or political. There are few *bona fide* Italians residing in this Empire; a number of natives are under Italian protection, and the commercial intercourse with Italy is most limited. Therefore, I believe, a clear exposition of the wish of the Italian Government to maintain the freedom and integrity of the Sultan's dominions would be much more likely to act as a deterrent to an aggressive policy in this direction than ceaseless endeavours to cap proceedings which are the natural outcome of the intercourse Morocco is obliged to entertain with its neighbours and countries who have material as well as political interests with it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 38.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 30.)

(No. 52. Confidential.)

Tangier, April 21, 1888.

My Lord,

IN my despatch No. 47, Confidential, of the 8th instant to your Lordship, reporting the conditional arrangement as to arbitration which had been come to between the Moorish Acting Commissioner for Foreign Affairs and the United States' Consul, I had the honour of pointing out to your Lordship that the Sultan might, through inherent ignorance or malevolent counsels, decline to accept the arrangement without first attempting to introduce into it many modifications.

* Also to Sir J. Savile (No. 32), Sir A. Paget (No. 36), Sir E. Malet (No. 117), Sir C. de la Force (No. 72), and Sir W. K. Green (No. 44).
† North Africa. Parts XIV and XV (Confidential Nos. 5550 and 5591).

The inclosed translation of a note received by me two days ago from Cid Emfadi Gharneet will show your Lordship that my fears have been realized.

The reply, of which I have the honour to supply herewith a translation, was sent by me yesterday to the Marquise Minister.

I trust your Lordship will not disapprove of my thus having apparently withdrawn from further intervention in the pending questions between Mr. Reed Lewis and the Moorish Government. I have thought my note would most likely cause the Sultan and his advisers to understand that, after all, there are no political dangers to be feared for the European Powers should His Majesty be left to settle his differences alone with the United States' Government, and that thus a clear perception would be brought about at the Sherrefian Court of the advantages to itself of the proposed arrangement.

Cid el Hadj Mohamed Zugary, to whom I made known the nature of the Moorish Minister's reply, was most disheartened at hearing it, and agreed with me in thinking that my note was calculated to hasten the acceptance of the arrangement.

I also, confidentially, communicated the answer from Cid Emfadi Gharneet to Mr. Reed Lewis, and he has informed me that as long as he does not receive an official intimation from Hadj Mohamed Zugary of the rejection of the proposed arrangement he will abstain from unduly pressing for a reply with the hope that better counsels will ultimately prevail at the Sherrefian Court.

Hadj Mohamed Zugary is inclined to believe that, as he has not yet received an answer to his communications to the Sultan, submitting the arrangement for His Majesty's ratification, when it is ascertained that I have declined to move further, he will be directed to accept the original proposal. I have informed his Excellency that in that event I have every reason to believe Mr. Reed Lewis could be induced to give way in the matter of the place of meeting of the Arbiters, as well as in many other such minor details.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure I in No. 38.

Cid Emfadi Gharneet to Sir W. K. Green.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

Shanab 2, 1305 (April 15, 1888).

I HAVE received your letter informing me that you have exerted your good offices in the matter at issue between the Representatives of the Sultan at Tangier and the American Consul, and that you have brought about an Agreement between the two sides; also that you at one time feared that the American Consul did not understand the intentions of the Sultan and would make further steps towards estrangement, but that now he has been moved by a better spirit, and that he consents to refer the questions to a Tribunal, and has set down the mode in which this is to be carried out in a document, which has been signed by him and by the Emin Hadj Mohammed Zugari, although no part of this Agreement is to be considered binding on either side, until ratified by His Sherrefian Majesty. You state also that the conditions laid down in this document are conceived in a perfectly just and fair spirit, and that possibly the Sherrefian Government may use them in future as a precedent, and that they will derive great advantage from them; that their acceptance by America is a proof that that State does not desire hostilities nor discussions, nor to enforce its claims, and that the benefit resulting from this Tribunal is new to the Sherrefian Government in its misunderstandings with foreign Governments, and that the former will, in future, be able to act on the same principle in anything in which its wishes are not complied with, by refusing to agree to it until it has been submitted to a Tribunal, and that such a demand will be accepted by every one in consideration of the present case.

I have communicated your letter to my Lord, the Sultan, and His Majesty has taken cognizance of all you have explained in it, and has commanded me to answer you that one of those demands is that the Tribunal should hold its sittings in their (the American) office, though it is in accordance with custom that they should take place at the Government House at Tangier, as was the case in the settlement of the demands of other foreign Representatives; another feature in the document is that the (the American Consul) mentions the claims in a general way and does not specify them, although this is contrary to the custom, existing between the Representatives of the Powers in their demands, of presenting a list of their claims, in which each individual

claim is separately detailed; however, if he insists in not specifying them and in treating them collectively, let the condition remain as it stands, and all the complaints, claims, and demands of America, in which right is on the latter's side, will be settled according to Treaties and Regulations and in the same manner as claims of other nations, but no limited time is to be specified for the carrying out of the settlements, for whenever the settlement of pending claims for debt and robbery has been agreed upon with Great Powers, it has been with a fixing a limited period, but the Agreement has been made with due regard to facilities and possibility, certainly, everything which is easy of settlement will be settled. Another condition is that the members of the Tribunal are to agree upon a foreign Representative, who is to decide any matter on which they may be at variance. If they agree upon the German Minister, well and good, but if the American Consul wishes to name somebody on his side, he will be met by the German Minister on the side of the Sultan, and if they are not agreed on that, then it shall be referred to all the foreign Representatives at Tangier to be decided by them according to Treaty and Regulations, this will then be the Sub-Committee referred to in the said document. Be your best, friend, to obtain the modification of this Agreement in the way mentioned, so that a favourable issue may be attained.

Peace.

Dated Shaaban 2, 1305 April 15th, 1888

(Signed)

MOHAMED EL MUADDAL BEN MOHAMED GHARNEEF

Inclosure 2 in No. 38.

Sir W. K. Green to Cid Emfoudi Gharneef.

(Translation)

Tangier, April 20, 1888

YOUR Excellency's letter of the 2 Shaaban (14th instant), in reply to my communication of the 7th, reached me yesterday evening.

I regret to observe that His Sheressian Majesty has failed to understand the pressing nature of my advice, or that the arrangement which I had brought about between Cid el Hadj Mohamed Zogary and the United States Consul was not one in which the Moorish Commissioner could oppose his wishes on Mr Reed Lewis. On the contrary, the arrangement was a fair issue out of a position where demands were being made under a demonstration of naval force. The arrangement had the immediate result of removing the pressure exercised by the presence of that force. Possibly the Sultan's refusal to ratify the arrangement will result in the return at once of the American ships of war. But if pressure is renewed or not by the United States' Government, having failed in the present instance to make His Sheressian Majesty understand the value of my advice, I must decline all further intervention, except under superior orders, in this matter between the Moorish Government and the United States' Consul.

Had the Sultan, whilst ratifying the arrangement, made known to me His Sheressian Majesty's objections to some of the details of the arrangement, which I admit appear to me to be necessarily exacting, I would then not have failed to endeavour to induce Mr Reed Lewis to consent to modifications which I think would have been due for the dignity both of the Sheressian Government as well as for that of the United States.

Peace.

(Signed)

W. KIRBY GREEN

No. 39.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury—(Received May 1)

(No. 53)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 24, 1888.

THE accompanying translation of an extract from a letter, dated the 17th instant, received by me to-day from a most trustworthy informant at the city of Morocco, furnishes a clear insight into the nature of the practical ferment on the south-western Moroccan borders of Algeria, which has been noted in my despatches to your Lordship, Nos. 45 and 46 of the 1st and 4th instant.

My correspondent is evidently of opinion that the movement was or is of a

religious nature opposed to Christians, and not hostile to the Sultan. He, therefore, attaches to it no importance, and believes it has subsided, or will subside, when it is understood that the governing classes are opposed to it.

Rumours, nevertheless, continue to become daily more prevalent that the Sultan is preparing a force to accompany him in the direction of Taflet, to put an end to the effervescence produced through the Darkawees' injudicious preaching. I still believe, however, that the preparations, upon which these rumours are founded, are in connection with Malai Hassan's projected visit in this direction.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure in No. 39.

Extract from a Letter received from Morocco by Sir W. K. Green.

(Translation.)

AS to the Marabout Cid Mohamed ben-el-Arbi Edderkwi, at Taflet, about whom you wrote to me there is no foundation for the report which you communicated to me. If it had been true I should have let you know of it before any one else could have questioned you on the subject, for you know that I am not guilty of negligence in such matters. You must also know that the inhabitants of the Sahara are my brethren and Taflet is my country, therefore news of such a description would not be withheld from me under the frequency of the communications between us. A rumour of the same sort as that which has reached you spread last year and I informed you of it, but the matter turned out differently to what was stated. In those days the people of Fingaz and of the new Berber went to His Sheressian Majesty at Mequinez, and complained that the French had violated their territory, invoking the Sultan's help, but His Majesty repelled them, and I let you know of this. What has happened now is that the people of Fingaz went to the Darkawees and requested him to help them, as they wished to dispute their frontiers with the French. He gave them promises with his tongue only, but his servants, the Marabouts, having heard these words from him, let loose their tongues in clamour (matamoras) among the tribes over whom the Government has little control, and this was reported in all parts, and all tongues were set wagging on the subject, and people began to express their approval as if it were a fact (i.e., that the Darkawees would lend assistance to the people of Fingaz), and in consequence of this talk commerce began to stagnate and the arts to be abandoned, and Governors to oppress their subjects, until these began to moot rebellion, heaping therein to find rest. When it was known that the Sultan was going to proceed to the ports, people of small understanding took it for granted that war was imminent, and when they heard that an American war vessel had come to Tangier they felt themselves confirmed in their ideas, and all doubts were dispelled from their minds. The Sultan was informed of all this, and it is said that he wrote to the Darkawees to reprove him, because clamour can only be raised by permission of the Sultan. The people with whom this originated are unprincipled and astrait men of the Darkawees, and there is no doubt that some people have incited them to clamour in order to create difficulties for His Majesty, but it is certainly the Sultan's intention to check them. There is no doubt that in the middle of Shaaban the Sultan will start for your parts.

April 17, 1888 (Shaaban 5)

No. 40.

Signor Cantagalli to Signor Crispien—(Communicated to the Marquis of Salisbury by M. Catalani, May 2.)

(Translation)

Sir,

Tangier, April 1 1888.

AN insurrectionary movement has broken out in that region of the Empire which runs along the southern slopes of the Atlas. Its centre is in the Tafilat country, and, according to the latest news received here, it appears to be extending westward among the At-Atta and eastward among the Nomad-habyles, who overrun the country as far as the Algerian frontier.

At the head of the movement is a certain Sherief of Mdaghra (a small oasis north of Tafilat, in the valley of the Zis), called Mahammed-ben-el-Arbi, a man with a

following and influence in the surrounding country. He belongs to the sect of the Dercawa, the influence of which spreads from the Oasis of Mdaghra, and which has many adherents, not only among the populations south of the Atlas, but also among those in the north of Morocco.

Among the various confraternities which have arisen in Islam, that of the Dercawa takes the place occupied by the Franciscans among our religious orders; the principles it preaches are contempt for earthly possessions, an exaggerated feeling for equality, and a certain socialistic spirit. To these are added a profound hatred of westerns and their civilization, and it is to the cry of the Jihad, or holy war against the infidel, that the Sherref, Mahommed-ben-el-Arbi, has raised the population of Tafilat.

The sect of the Dercawa so resembles that of the Senussi as to give the impression that it might be under the spiritual and political influence of the latter, and to count its adherents among the forces on which the sect of the Senussi can reckon.

The information as yet received does not show what are the intentions of the insurgents. Some think the movement directed against the Sultan, who to these fanatical people appears imbued with western ideas, and think that as the rebels have the powerful Berber confederation of M-Atta on their side, they could raise the country of Sus, and even attempt a coup-de-main on the city of Morocco. Others think the movement directed against the French in Algeria, and compare it to the rising headed by Bou-Amama in 1881. In this connection, M. Féraud told me yesterday that the authorities in Algeria had for some time past had advice of what was being prepared, and were ready for whatever might happen. Moreover, the pioneer railway opened some months ago as far as Ain Sefra, and the fortified ports occupied by the French on that part of their frontier would make it far easier now than it ever was in the past to repress any insurrectionary movement in Southern Oran. The particulars in the following extract from a French publication will give a more exact idea of the state of the case—

"En quelques heures, si les événements l'exigent, le chemin de fer amène à Mascara, de Saida, et du Kreider 3,000 ou 4,000 hommes à Ain Sefra. Vingt-quatre heures après ces forces pourraient être rendues à Thyat, à Si Slima, à Moghar, au col de Fouassia, &c., avec tout le matériel et tout l'approvisionnement qu'Ain Sefra leur avait fournis. En deux jours, elles auraient gagné le point stratégique le plus avancé de la région, c'est-à-dire Djenn Bou Rezg, placé à la tête de l'Oued Aoudj (Oued Dermal) à peu près à la latitude de Figuié et à une quarantaine de kilomètres de cet oasis."

Whatever may be the object of the revolt, whether it threatens directly the authority of the Sultan or the French in Algeria, the possible danger to the Sherrefian Throne and to the integrity of the Empire is manifest in both cases.

From what I hear the Court is already occupied with the matter, and military preparations are being completed at Fes, which, in order not to alarm the people, might be said to be directed against some neighbouring Kabyles. Rumours are already current that the Sultan has, at any rate for the present, given up his intention of coming to Tangier.

I am not now in a position to give your Excellency more exact intelligence or fuller details of these events, but I need not to assure you that I will not fail to give them my most careful attention.

(Signed) CANTAGALLI.

No. 41.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 2.)

(No. 62.)
My Lord,

Madrid, April 27, 1888.

IN my despatch No. 53 of the 5th instant, I had the honour to report to your Lordship the text of the formula which Señor Moret would employ in fixing a date for the meeting of the proposed Conference on Moorish affairs, namely, that "the Conference should meet to consider to what extent and on what conditions the Powers can accede to the wishes expressed by the Sultan of Morocco."

Those wishes were embodied in Mohamed Garnet's note of the 16th August, 1887, and formed the inclosure to Señor Moret's letter addressed to the Spanish Representatives abroad, dated the 1st December, 1887.

Her Majesty's Government are disposed to concur in this proposed formula on

the condition that, before a meeting of the Conference, Señor Moret should make a statement to the Sultan to the effect that none of his demands would be granted unless His Majesty at the same time granted what has been asked of him in order that his Plenipotentiary should be furnished with instructions and powers to meet all eventualities; also that the resolutions of the Conference as to the abolition of the protection of natives by foreign Governments should be made conditional on the Sultan's conceding what is asked of him.

On the 10th instant I telegraphed to your Lordship stating that Señor Moret had drawn up a paper which was to be communicated to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs in which were embodied Señor Moret's proposals for alterations, &c., to be effected in the Madrid Convention of 1860, together with a list of additional declarations, the agreement to which would be asked for at the Conference.

Owing to the absence from Tangier of the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Señor Moret cannot state positively when the paper in question will reach the Moorish Minister's hands; but Señor Moret is of opinion that not much further time will be lost before it does so.

On the 21st instant your Lordship telegraphed and informed me that you had received the translation, which formed the inclosure of my despatch No. 36, of Señor Moret's "Additional Declarations," but that Her Majesty's Government could not sign a Protocol modifying the 1860 Convention and rely for counter-concessions on vague promises of commercial and judicial reforms. Those reforms, said your Lordship, should be discussed and settled at the Conference and embodied in the Protocol, and your Lordship added that Her Majesty's Government considered that Señor Moret should prepare the Sultan for this before issuing the invitations.

On receipt of your Lordship's telegram I spoke to Señor Moret on the subject, and his Excellency informed me that the latter part of the statement contained in your Lordship's telegram would, in his opinion, be complied with by the fact of his having forwarded a copy of his paper to Tangier to be presented to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs who would, as a matter of course, communicate it to His Sherrefian Majesty.

With regard to your Lordship's desire that the commercial and judicial reforms should be discussed and settled at the Conference and embodied in the Protocol, his Excellency stated that he did not see his way to carrying out such a wish. The most, he said, that could be effected in that direction would be, during the sitting of the Conference, to establish and record the principle that the modifications made in the protection system would be made conditional on the Sultan of Morocco admitting the fact that he was prepared to grant the Commercial reforms which were asked of him, and also the judicial reforms, but Señor Moret asserted that these subjects could hardly be discussed except in a general manner at the Conference, and that the subject of judicial reforms was one of so complicated a nature that it would be impossible to "settle" it at the Conference embodying the result thereof in a Protocol.

The most that could be effected on this subject would be to establish the fact that the necessity of making judicial reforms in Morocco was accepted by the Moorish Delegate, and Señor Moret added that he was quite prepared, when discussing these questions, and particularly that of commercial reforms, to bind the Moorish Delegate by a solemn promise that his (the Moorish) Government should fix a date which might be agreeable to Her Majesty's Government when Moorish Commissioners to treat the subject should meet at Tangier for that purpose. "For," said Señor Moret, "I cannot understand the meaning of Her Majesty's Government to be that the complicated and technical details of fresh commercial arrangements to be entered into with Morocco are to be settled at a Conference such as that which it is now proposed to hold."

Señor Moret assures me that he has given the most stringent instructions to Señor Diosdado, the Spanish Minister at Tangier, to make it perfectly clear to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs that if the Government of His Sherrefian Majesty will not subscribe to the terms submitted to it in his (Señor Moret's) paper, the Spanish Government will then abandon the idea of holding the Conference at all, and will throw the entire responsibility of such a proceeding on the shoulders of the Moorish Government.

Señor Moret has likewise assured me that he is anxious to meet the views of Her Majesty's Government in all matters relating to this proposed Conference so far as may be in his power, and I should observe that if your Lordship after reading this despatch, is still desirous of having any further points cleared up or wish to have removed

any doubts which may exist in your Lordship's mind on the subject, Señor Moret will be only too happy to take them into consideration with a view to further explanations.

He is anxious, however, that as little more time as possible should be lost, for he informed me that France and the other Powers concerned were agreed in the matter and raised no objections, and that he was consequently desirous to seeing the matter settled and proceed to issue his invitations fixing a day for the meeting of the Conference.

I must inform your Lordship, however, that it is clearly understood that no steps whatever will be taken by Señor Moret to convene a meeting until he is in possession of a satisfactory reply from the Moorish Government to the terms which will be submitted to them by the Spanish Representative at Tangier.

The arrival in that place of the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs is daily expected, but, owing to the fêtes about to take place early next month at Barcelona on the occasion of the official inauguration on the 20th May on the part of the Queen-Regent of Spain of the International Exhibition there, I do not see how under any circumstances the Conference could assemble at Madrid much before the end of next month or early in that of June.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

No. 42.

Anglo-Jewish Association to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 3.)

My Lord, 100, Sutherland Gardens, London, May 2, 1888.
I AM directed to convey to your Lordship most grateful acknowledgments for the letter, dated the 25th ultimo, addressed to Mr F. D. Maitta, Vice-President of the Anglo-Jewish Association, with reference to the subject of the protection hitherto enjoyed by a certain number of Jewish persons in the Moorish dominions. The letter, together with the Confidential despatch, will be duly laid before the Committee of the Anglo-Jewish Association and the Deputies of British Jews.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. LOWY, Secretary.

No. 43.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received May 4.)

Sir, Admiralty, May 3, 1888.
WITH reference to your letter of the 11th April, I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the perusal of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of a letter from the Commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean, dated the 24th April, forwarding programme of the first summer cruise of some of the ships of the Mediterranean squadron.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 43.

Admiral His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to Admiralty.

(Extract.) "Thunderer," at Malta, April 24, 1888.
WITH reference to paragraphs 3 and 4 of your letter above quoted, I beg to observe that I have received no intimation of the probable date of the arrival of the Sultan of Morocco at Tangier, or of the duration of His Sherrefian Majesty's stay there. I have, however, arranged to arrive at Gibraltar as soon as practicable after the 15th May, in order, if possible, to enable me to carry out the desired arrangements with regard to the presents destined for Her Majesty the Queen, provided the recent occurrence at Cape Juby does not necessitate any change in the relations between England and Morocco.

Inclosure 2 in No. 43.

PROGRAMME of Summer Cruise of Mediterranean Squadron, 1888.—First Portion.

Place.	Arrive.	Harbour.	Leave.	Sea.	Distance to next Port.	Latest Date for Dispatch of Mails from London.
	1888	Days.	1888	Days.		
Malta	May 15	4	May 10	8	670	Day mail, 5th May
Barcelona ..	May 15	4	May 20	8	615	Night mail, Friday, 15th May.
Gibraltar ..	May 24	12	June 6	9	60	Night mail, Saturday, 2nd June.
Malaga	June 7	1	June 9	4	350	Night mail, Wednesday, 6th June.
Valencia ..	June 12	4	June 17	5	230	Night mail, Thursday, 14th June.
Port Mahon ..	June 19	3	June 23	5	350	Night mail, Monday, 18th June, via Barcelona.
Spezia	June 25	6	July 3	8	320	Night mail, Saturday, 10th June.
Genoa	July 4	3	July 8	5	330	Night mail, Thursday, 1st July.
Naples	July 4	3	July 8	5	330	Night mail, Thursday, 1st July.
Castellamare ..	July 4	3	July 8	5	330	Night mail, Thursday, 1st July.
Malta	July 10					Afterwards Malta.

No. 44.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 7.)

(No. 54. Confidential.)

My Lord, Tangier, April 27, 1888.
WITH reference to Señor Moret's "Notes on the Morocco Conference," translation of which was furnished your Lordship in Sir Clare Ford's despatch No. 50, Confidential, of the 11th instant, I solicit your Lordship's permission to observe that I cannot, after a most careful perusal of the Spanish Secretary of State's suggestions, express the opinion that they are very well calculated to bring about a satisfactory and practical solution of the existing difficulties surrounding the question of foreign protection of natives in this country.

Señor Moret's lack of personal acquaintance with the working here of the Convention of Madrid of 1880 has necessarily made him not only attach value to points of minor importance, but also has caused him to propose changes which would, instead of remedying actual abuses, augment them and open the door for the introduction of new ones.

Thus, Declaration No. 1, which Señor Moret wishes added to Articles II, III, and IV, instead of restricting the rights of protection, would, on the contrary, increase them. Hitherto there has been no question that, when a native ceased being in the employment of a Legation or a Consular office, he did not cease also to be protected by the authority which he had served. A native acquired no right by entering foreign employment of which his foreign employer could not divest him by the simple process of discharge. Therefore no better control over native retainers would be obtained by inserting in a Convention that they would revert, in all but exceptional cases, to Moorish jurisdiction when their services ceased.

The value of Declaration No. 2 is equally unapparent to me as I have never heard of a foreign Representative having claimed to protect permanently a native who may have occasionally discharged for the Representative's nation Consular functions.

Though the terms of Article V appear sufficiently clear, still they have been the cause of divergent interpretation by the Moorish Government and the United States' Consul. These differences of interpretation have been the cause of one of the pending questions between the two Governments; consequently, Article V requires reconsideration with a view to rendering it more explicit.

The proposed rectifications in Articles VII and VIII, although founded on fair principles, are not all quite practical, owing to the difficulty of obtaining on a specified date complete lists of the protected subjects. The Moorish authorities cannot,

therefore, be allowed to consider the absence of the name of a protected subject on the yearly list as a hard and fast disqualification of the person's right to protection when that person is in possession of a properly executed patent of protection.

The addition to Article IX suggested, would augment rather than limit the privileges now exercised under it. Up to the present time no claim could be maintained by foreign authorities under it to intervene in trials of persons enjoying the measure of protection furnished through their being holders of foreign interests or property or in foreign employ. The object of the notice required from the Moorish authority was to enable the employer to withdraw his interests from the employé's hands so that they should not suffer from the arrest of the employé.

One of the principal advantages under Article X, of merchants carrying on an important trade, would be lost if they are not to be permitted to select their agents or brokers from wherever they may find it most advantageous for their business.

The word "naturalization" used by Señor Moret as being the result of the "visé" by the foreign Representative of the broker's certificate, I infer, is an unintentional application of the word.

An evident contradiction exists in the attempt to declare a broker ("censal") not exempt from local jurisdiction, when provision is made that he cannot be tried in a native Tribunal except under the intervention of the corresponding Consular authority. Intervention by a Consular authority in Morocco means the curtailment of local jurisdiction.

The effect of Señor Moret's suggestion here would be to assimilate brokers ("censaux") to agents, &c., specified under Article IX. Under such circumstances, two separate Articles would be superfluous, and, therefore, the "censaux" class should be struck out as having no special privileges attached to it.

Article X bis. The control of mercantile transactions thus suggested is not practicable or applicable where British merchants are concerned.

Article X ter. Whilst there can be no doubt that it would be most advantageous to require the specified contracts between natives and foreigners to be legalized by their respective authorities, still the further power proposed to be given to the Moorish authorities of making the validity of these contracts subject to their previous sanction of them, would, in practice, result in the cessation of all intercourse of an agrarian and agricultural nature between natives and foreigners. The similar right of control by the Moorish authorities (see Article XI, Madrid Convention 1880) in the purchase of real property has been used (abused) to prevent foreigners acquiring property in all parts of Morocco except Tangier.

The "gate tax" having been abolished, there is no need to reproduce Article XIII.

I regret also to be unable to attach much value to the form to be given to the pledges which Señor Moret wishes the Sultan to take.

The first one, concerning the treatment of rejected subjects who shall revert to local jurisdiction, would, in practice, be found to return, ere long, all the natives in question to foreign protection as having been the victims of persecution.

Pledge No. 2, respecting the proper administration of justice, could not be carried out, as being beyond the comprehension of the Moorish Government, except with the assistance and under the control of the foreign Representatives, and pledge No. 3 would never be proceeded with, as the Sultan would never deem it possible to bring about changes in his Laws concerning mercantile transactions, nor convenient to alter the existing Commercial Treaties.

With regard to the proposed establishment of a Tribunal of Guarantees, I consider it the least practicable of all Señor Moret's suggestions. In the first instance, there is in Tangier an insufficiency of Consular officers to form the proposed Tribunal, whilst the foreign Representatives who have not the rank of Plenipotentiaries would resent their exclusion from the Tribunal. But the principal blot of the proposal is the constitution of a Court in which the acts of the different Legations would be liable to supervision. The Tribunal could only result in fostering discord among the foreign Representatives here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 45.

Sir W. R. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 7.)

(No. 55.)
My Lord,

Tangier, April 27, 1888.

IN my despatch No. 54, Confidential, of this day's date, I have had the honour of pointing out to your Lordship that most of Señor Moret's suggestions concerning the modifications which it is desirable should be effected in the existing privileges of the foreign protection of natives in Morocco are not of a practical nature.

Señor Moret's suggestions, however, indicate that what he contemplates as the object to be attained by the coming Conference is a simple remodelling of the Convention of Madrid of 1880, without attempting to get rid, once for all, of the anomalies attendant upon the exercise of foreign protection of natives.

Indeed, reports in the public press emanating from official sources at Madrid, allow it to be inferred that the Conference is expected to terminate its labours almost immediately after its meeting. Under these circumstances, fearing that a hurried arrangement may result hereafter in bringing blame upon the Representatives in Morocco for being incapable of carrying out satisfactorily its terms, I hope I shall be pardoned for adding my own suggestions, as shown in the inclosed draft, of the manner in which the Convention of Madrid of 1880, might be modified with advantage. My suggestions are made not under the supposition that they are the best that can be devised, but only that they are likely to prove more practical in execution than those which have already preceded them.

I must add that the manner of constituting the Mixed Native Tribunals, which are the means by which I propose that the protection of all natives except those in the employ of the Legations and Consular establishments should be abandoned, has been adopted from suggestions made by Herr Travers, the German Minister, in conversations with me.

With regard to Article XVI of the Convention of Madrid of 1880, I have not felt justified in recommending its suppression. Your Lordship is aware that I consider it would be a loss of time to attempt to withdraw from French protection the Shercof of Wazan, who ostensibly obtained his protection under the terms of this Article. The coming Conference, I think, will be better able to introduce modifications in it if it is deemed advisable to modify in a restrictive sense the Article. I am of opinion that the Article in question, if construed and applied according to its evident sense, is capable of being of occasional use, notably in the instance of native functionaries of our Legations and Consulates, who, through age and other infirmities, may be obliged to quit our service, but whom it would be inexpedient to abandon to the tender mercies of the Moorish authorities.

All abuses which have crept in under this Article are attributable to forced interpretations of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure in No. 45.

Sir W. R. Green's Suggestions of the manner in which the Convention of Madrid of the 3rd July, 1880, might be modified.

Number of corresponding Article in Madrid Convention of 1880.

ARTICLE I.

Article I.—No change.

THE conditions under which protection may be granted are those laid down in the British and Spanish Treaties with the Government of Morocco, and in the Convention concluded between that Government, France, and other Powers in 1863, subject to the modifications made therein by the present Convention.

ARTICLE II.

Article II.—Extended.

Foreign Representatives, Heads of Missions, may choose their Interpreters and other employés from among the subjects of

The persons thus employed shall be under the entire protection and jurisdiction of the Government represented by their employer. They shall not be liable to any dues, imposts, or taxes whatsoever, excepting as stipulated by Article XII.

ARTICLE III.

Article III.—No material change.

Consuls, Vice-Consuls, or Consular Agents, Heads of their respective posts, who reside in the domains of the Sultan of Morocco, can only select one Interpreter, one soldier, and two servants from among the subjects of the Sultan, unless they should stand in need of a native Secretary.

The persons thus protected shall not be liable to any dues, imposts, or taxes whatsoever, excepting as stipulated by Article XII.

ARTICLE IV.

Article IV.—No material change.

If a Representative should name a subject of the Sultan to the post of Consular Agent in a town on the coast, such Agent shall be respected and honoured, as well as his family residing under the same roof, the members of whom, as well as the Agent himself, shall not be liable to any dues, imposts, or taxes whatsoever, excepting as stipulated in Article XII; but he shall not be able to protect other subjects of the Sultan beyond his own family.

He may, however, in order to the exercise of his functions, maintain a soldier under protection.

Subjects of the Sultan who may be left in charge of Vice-Consulates shall enjoy, during the exercise of their functions, the same rights as Consular Agents who are subjects of the Sultan.

ARTICLE V.

Article V.—Extended.

The Government of Morocco recognizes the right (which is accorded by the Treaties) of Ministers, *Chargé d'Affaires*, and other Representatives to select the persons whom they employ, whether in their personal service or in that of their Governments, provided always that these are not *Shenkis* actually in the exercise of their functions, or others in the employ of the Government of Morocco, such as soldiers of the line, cavalry, excepting *Muzannas* employed as guards. The right of employment and protection cannot be exercised in respect of persons under prosecution for a misdemeanour or crime committed previous to the acquisition of protection, until they shall have been tried by the authorities of the country, and shall, if found guilty, have undergone their punishment.

Civil suits are no bar to the employment and protection of any of the parties to them by the functionaries in Morocco of foreign Governments, but it is understood that this protection cannot be exercised as regards the pending suits which shall be continued and terminated independently before the Tribunals before which they were commenced; consequently, the protection cannot act as a hindrance to the execution of a Judgment duly and legally delivered. The local authority shall be careful to make instant communication of the Judgment delivered to the Legation, Consulate, or Consular Agency to whom the protected person belongs.

In the case of ex-protected persons who shall have commenced a suit before their protection ceased, their suit shall be tried by the Tribunal before which it was brought.

ARTICLE VI.

Article VI.—Curtailed.

Protection extends to the family of the person protected. His dwelling is respected.

It is understood that the family consists only of the wives, the

children, and such relations, being minors, who live under the same roof.

Protection is not hereditary, except in such cases as may have been or may be specially stipulated between the Sultan of Morocco and a foreign Government.

ARTICLE VII.

Article VII.—Extended.

The engagement of a native in the service of a foreign Representative must be notified in writing to the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs of the Sultan at Tangier.

The said Commissioner shall be furnished in the month of January of every year by all the foreign Representatives with lists giving the names of the persons under their protection, and stating all particulars entitling the persons thereon noted to that protection.

These lists shall be transmitted by the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs to the competent local authorities to enable them to know who are the natives entitled to protection. Additions to or deductions from these lists shall, on being effected, be immediately notified in writing to the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, whose duty it will be to have them brought to the knowledge of those local authorities who should be made acquainted with them.

ARTICLE VIII.

Article VIII.—Extended.

Consular officers shall furnish the authority of the district in which they reside in January of every year with a list, certified with their seal, of the protected Moorish subjects within their Consular district and under their jurisdiction. Duplicate lists must at the same time be sent by the Consular officers to the Heads of their respective Missions for notification to the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs.

It shall be the duty of the Consular officer to give immediate notice in writing, both to the local authority and to his superior, of every addition to, or deduction from, the list of protected persons within his Consular district and jurisdiction.

ARTICLE IX.

Article IX.—Completely remodelled and new stipulations.

Servants, farmers ("fermiers"), and other native employees of native Secretaries and Interpreters do not enjoy protection. It is the same for Moroccan employees or servants of foreign subjects. The privileges of "semsara" or brokers, as were established by the Treaties and the Convention of 1863, are abolished.

All the persons above specified are to form one category of natives in foreign employ, and each native shall be provided with a certificate delivered by the Legation of the employer stating his name, that of his employer, and the nature of his employment.

These persons shall be amenable to the jurisdiction of Native Mixed Tribunals, which shall be established at every one of the ports of Morocco open to trade, and shall be composed in the following manner:—

President of the Tribunal:—

1. The Chief Administrator of Customs at the port.

Members:—

2. A European resident selected by the Consular officer of the nationality of the employer of the Moorish employee.

3. Native Notable resident at the port.

Assessor:—

Consular officer of the nationality of the employer, of the native, or his nominee.

The Judgment is to be rendered by a majority of votes. The assessor has no voice in the delivery of the Judgment, but his signature certifying to the legality of the proceedings is requisite to give executive force to the Judgment.

These Courts will have sole jurisdiction in all civil suits in which natives in foreign employ are plaintiffs or defendants, except in matters of real property and status. In no case shall a person of the category in question be arrested on a civil suit except under warrant of the Native Mixed Tribunal of the port to which he may be amenable. In criminal pursuits it shall be lawful for the ordinary Moorish authority to proceed to the immediate arrest of a native in foreign employ where public safety and order call for it, or when the person is caught in *flagrante delicto*, but under such circumstances the accused must be brought up and charged with all practicable speed before the Mixed Native Tribunal nearest to the locality where the offence is said to have been committed. The jurisdiction of these Mixed Native Tribunals shall be limited in criminal matters to cases in which the offence, if proved, may be met by the infliction of a fine not exceeding 50 dollars, or of a term of imprisonment not exceeding three months. In other criminal matters the jurisdiction shall be confined to examining into the foundation of the charges. If these charges are ascertained to be well-grounded, the accused shall be remitted to the ordinary Moorish authority to be properly dealt with; but should the charges remain unsubstantiated, the accused shall be liberated and freed from all further molestation on the same grounds.

The Mixed Native Tribunals shall also have initial jurisdiction in criminal cases; that is to say, they shall have power to require persons of the aforesaid category to be brought up before them by the ordinary local executive authorities on complaints made directly before such Tribunals.

A scale of fees to provide for the expenses and maintenance of the Mixed Native Tribunals shall hereafter be established by agreement between the Moorish Commissioner for Foreign Affairs and the foreign Representatives at Tangier. Proper rooms for the sittings of the Tribunals shall be set apart in the official residences of the Rishas of the ports.

A Court of Appeal from the decisions of the Native Mixed Tribunals shall sit at Tangier, and be composed of the Sultan's Commissioner for Foreign Affairs and the Representative of the nationality of the native's foreign employer. In cases of disagreement between the two, an umpire shall be agreed upon by them to be selected, either from among the Moorish Notables at Tangier, or the superior officers of the foreign Legations and Missions.

In suits where plaintiff and defendant are employes of foreign subjects of different nationalities, the European member of the Tribunal and the Assessor will be of the nationality of the defendant's employer. The same will be the case with regard to the foreign Representative sitting, under similar circumstances, in the Court of Appeal.

ARTICLE I.

The right to hold property in Morocco is recognized for all foreigners.

The purchase of real property ("propriétés") must be made with the previous consent of the Government, which, however, must not be withheld except on valid and justifiable grounds, which must be fully stated on each separate occasion of refusal; and the titles to such property shall be subject to the Regulations prescribed by the laws of the country.

ARTICLE XI.

Foreigners and protected persons who are proprietors or renters of cultivated land shall pay the agrarian tax. They shall furnish

Article X.—Abolished.

Article XI.—Rectified.

Article XII.—Similar in effect.

the Consul with an exact yearly statement of their possessions, and shall at the same time pay into his hands the amount of the tax for delivery to the competent Moorish authority.

Any person making a false declaration shall pay, by way of fine, double the tax which he should have properly paid for the property not declared. In case of repetition of the offence, this fine shall be doubled.

The nature, the mode, the date, and the amount of this tax shall be fixed in a special Regulation to be arranged between the Representatives of the Powers and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Moroccan Majesty.

ARTICLE XII.

Every Moroccan subject naturalized abroad, who shall return to Morocco, shall not be entitled to claim to be treated otherwise than as a Moorish subject in his native country, except with the special sanction of the Government of Morocco.

Naturalization abroad obtained up to the 3rd July, 1880, by Moroccan subjects, in accordance with the Regulations established by the laws of each country, is secured to them with every right, without any restrictions whatever.

ARTICLE XIII.

No irregular or officious protection shall be granted in future. The authorities of Morocco shall not recognize any rights of protection, whatever may be their nature, other than those which are expressly laid down in this Convention.

Nevertheless, the exercise of the customary right of protection shall be reserved to those cases alone, where it is a question of rewarding signal services rendered by a subject of Morocco to a foreign Power, or for other entirely exceptional reasons. The nature of the services and the intention of rewarding them by protection shall be previously notified to the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs at Tangier, in order that he may, if necessary, offer any observations; the final decision shall be reserved, however, to the Government to whom the service shall have been rendered. The number of these protected persons shall not exceed twelve for each Power, which number is fixed as the maximum, unless the consent of the Sultan is obtained.

The position of the protected persons who have obtained protection in virtue of the custom henceforward to be regulated by the present stipulation shall be, without limitation of the number of the protected persons actually in this category, the same for them and for their families as that which is established for other protected persons.

ARTICLE XIV.

The right of most-favoured-nation treatment is recognized by Morocco for all the Powers represented at the Conference of Madrid.

ARTICLE XV.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratification shall be exchanged at Tangier with the least possible delay.

By the special consent of the High Contracting Parties the stipulations of the present Convention shall not come into operation until the signature and ratification shall have taken place of a Commercial Convention, to be immediately negotiated between the Governments of Great Britain, and that of Morocco. In the meantime, the Convention of Madrid of 1880 will continue in force.

Articles XIII and XIV.—Abolished.

Article XV.—Modified.

Article XVI.—Unchanged.

Article XVII.—Unchanged.

Article XVIII.—New stipulations.

The negotiations for the Commercial Convention shall on no pretext whatever be protracted over a term of six months, to date from the date of the present Convention.
In witness, &c.

No. 46.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 46. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 7, 1888.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 52, Confidential, of the 21st ultimo, in regard to the difficulty which has occurred in connection with the conditional arrangement as to arbitration, which had been come to between the Moorish Acting Commissioner for Foreign Affairs and the United States' Consul at Tangier; and I have to convey to you my approval of the terms of your note to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, a translation of which you inclose.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 47

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 77.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1888.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 62 of the 27th ultimo, in which, after specifying the point at which the understanding in regard to the questions to be submitted to the Morocco Conference has arrived, your Excellency proposes to report the substance of the conversation which passed upon the subject when you called upon Señor Moret on receipt of my telegram of the 21st ultimo.

Señor Moret does not apparently propose to embody in the Protocol the "additional declarations" attached to the paper prepared by his Excellency, and he contends that the details of commercial and judicial reforms in Morocco are too complicated to be discussed and settled in the Conference. But Her Majesty's Government require that the modification of the Convention of 1880 should be conditional on those reforms being carried out, whilst they will be satisfied if the principles of those reforms, and not their details, are discussed and settled with sufficient precision, which is wanting in the "additional declarations" as they stand, and embodied in the Protocol.

In deference to the wishes, therefore, of the Spanish Government, Her Majesty's Government are prepared to accept the formula of invitation for the meeting of the Conference, provided that the Sultan of Morocco is informed that a suspensory clause in the Protocol will be insisted on, recording that the modifications of the Convention of 1880 are not to take effect until His Sherrefian Majesty has carried out to the satisfaction of the Powers the commercial and judicial reforms described in the "additional declarations."

I have to request your Excellency to speak to Señor Moret in this sense, adding that the "additional declarations" will consequently be discussed in the Conference and embodied in the Protocol.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 48.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 9.)

(No. 56. Most Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 2, 1888.

THROUGH the North African Print, section No. 423, received by me yesterday, I learn by Sir Clare Ford's telegram to your Lordship, No. 4 of the 16th ultimo, that Señor Moret's "Notes on the Morocco Conference" have been sent to the Sherrefian

Government in order that the Marroquine Delegate to the Conference may be furnished with instructions from the Sultan to meet the eventualities sketched out in the Spanish Secretary of State's notes.

The pledges and guarantees called for from the Moorish Government by Señor Moret, as I have had the honour of pointing out to your Lordship in my despatch No. 54, Confidential, of the 27th ultimo, are of so impracticable a nature, and bind the Sultan so little, that His Sherrefian Majesty is not at all unlikely to direct his Delegate to accept them, should need arise, with all the mental reservations to which they are open.

I therefore trust your Lordship will allow me, in this most confidential manner, to observe that if any decisions are to be come to at the Conference of value for this country and for the other High Contracting Parties, the fact must not be lost sight of that the Moorish Delegate should only be looked upon by those of his colleagues who hope to accomplish good work as a mere figure-head.

Cid-el-Hadj Mohammed Torres, who I believe will be the Sultan's Delegate, will proceed to the Conference with no other orders and determination than to demand the unconditional surrender by the Powers of the privileges of foreign protection of natives in Morocco, and, when this pretension is rejected, to abstain from conceding a single point which has not been specially sanctioned in the Sultan's instructions.

The Moorish Delegate's appearance and manners will captivate his colleagues, who, however, will only waste their time if they attempt to convince Hadj Mohammed Torres when they arrive at a point where independent action on his part is necessary. On the present occasion, the Moorish Delegate will conduct himself under the special protection and guidance of the Spanish Government so long as the latter keeps in view the Sultan's wishes. When alone with a foreign Ambassador, he will be prepared individually to agree with every argument the Ambassador may bring forward; but in the meetings of the Conference he will invariably revert to his original standpoint, and, if decisions are come to over his head, he will be content to assume the position of the piece of grit in clockwork, confiding that it will ere long throw the contrivance out of gear.

It has been under this knowledge that I ventured to formulate the last Article in the draft of the Convention (see inclosure in my despatch No. 55 of the 27th ultimo), containing my suggestions as to the manner in which the Convention of Madrid of 1880 may be modified.

Nothing solid or practicable can be accomplished by the coming Conference unless it is conceded by the assembled Delegates of the Powers, that the presence of the Moorish Representative in their midst is but a formality, and that the Conference has only to decide what will be for the good of Morocco, and not what will prove agreeable and pleasant for the Sultan.

The present Government of this country, when the flimsy veil of forms which covers it is pulled aside, is nothing but an enormous iniquity. To attempt to treat it as an ordinary Administration and give it power over foreign interests would be equivalent to trusting a highwayman with valuables. Nothing but good police and fear can keep a highwayman from his evil practices, and so it must be with the Moorish Government, which, too, cannot be expected to devise itself the means of stopping its wholesale pillage of its subjects.

Your Lordship will understand that I would not dare to use language of this nature unless it was justified, and except under this most confidential cover. But I feel it an imperative duty towards your Lordship and towards Sir Clare Ford, at the moment when he is about to take part in a Conference assembled for the ostensible purpose of facilitating the good Government of Morocco, to point out that nothing of value can be accomplished except in the conditions that a father has to adopt when he has to apply medicine to a wilful and sick child, who cannot understand and will not otherwise submit to take what is for his good.

Nothing can be expected from discussion at the Conference with the Moorish Delegate; neither can anything be expected from references by that Delegate to his master. The Sultan knows very well what he wants, and that is to put foreigners and foreign Powers as far away as possible from him. To make concessions to bring them in closer contact with him and his country he will not willingly consent. Those who have at heart the progress and independence of Morocco can only attain it by endeavouring to put a check on the present misgovernment through a general agreement with all the interested Powers to oblige His Sherrefian Majesty to accept measures calculated to bring gradually him and his authorities to acknowledge the advantages of good and honest administration.

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Sir Clare Ford's task will be a hard one to persuade some of the Delegates of the Powers interested in the future of this country to join in adopting measures so well calculated to lift Morocco from its present downward course.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 49.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 10.)

(No. 57.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 2, 1888.

REPORTS reaching this from the interior point to the hostile attitude assumed by the Berber tribes of Beni M'gild, Beni M'Tir, and Zean, which occupy the districts around Mequinez and Fez, not having abated.

It is asserted that these tribes are led by a Sherref named Abd-el-Malek-el-Marani, of the Driassén family, which is the rival family to the Aliwein Sherrefs, of whom Mulai Hassan is the Head.

Several encounters have already taken place between the rebels and the Sultan's troops, in which the latter are said to have been worsted. I learn from a trustworthy source at Mequinez that the Sherrefian Court is considerably agitated by the head which the insurrection is taking, and that great preparations are going on for the Sultan to assume the command of the troops which are being collected for the purpose of crushing the rebels. It is expected that these preparations will be completed in about fifteen days, and that Mulai Hassan will have subdued the rising by the end of the month of Ramadan (the first days of June), after which His Majesty will move at once towards Tangier.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 50.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 48.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 10, 1888.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 3, Treaty, of the 23rd April, I have to state to you that I have been informed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh has reported that arrangements have been made for the arrival of the squadron under his command at Gibraltar as soon as practicable after the 15th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 51.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 12.)

(No. 58. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 3, 1888.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 56, Most Confidential, of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that having to-day had an opportunity of inquiring of Señor Diosdado whether he had communicated to the Sherrefian Government Señor Moret's "notes on the Morocco Conference" in order that the Sultan's powers to his Delegate, who is about to proceed to the Madrid Conference, might be drawn up in a manner to meet all the eventualities sketched out in Señor Moret's notes, my Spanish colleague stated to me that he had not thought it expedient to make those notes known to the Moorish Government.

Señor Diosdado said that he had already explained to Señor Moret that, as his Excellency's object was that the Moorish Delegate should proceed to Madrid with all speed and be provided with powers sufficiently ample to give him a fair amount of initiative, he had thought these ends would be better attained by not placing before the

Sultan Señor Moret's notes. Señor Diosdado had, in fact, expressed the conviction that had those notes reached the Sherrefian Court the probability would have been that the Moorish Delegate would not have been ready to proceed to Madrid this time next year or any number of years hence.

Cid-el-Hadj Mohammed Torres is expected to arrive here from Mequinez either to-day or to-morrow, and to proceed to Madrid at the commencement of the coming week.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 52.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 12.)

(No. 59. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 4, 1888.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 57 of the 2nd instant, I have now the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a translation of an extract from a letter received by me to-day from a most trustworthy native source, containing interesting particulars concerning the rebel tribes around Mequinez, who are headed by a Sherref of considerable importance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Extract from a letter received by Sir W. K. Green from a trustworthy native source, dated Morocco, April 21, 1888.

(Translation.)

I HAVE to inform you that it is now about a year that the Sultan is giving money to the tribes for the apprehension of a Sherref named El-Aurani, who is living among the Beni-M'gild, who are neighbours of the Zayan tribes. He is strong owing to the force of rebel tribes which have collected around him. These tribes are in revolt; the Sultan's authority does not reach them owing to their numbers, their wealth, and the number of their horses. They are gathered round the Sherref, who is ambitious of honour. Our Lord the Sultan has tendered money for his apprehension or his death, as he is unruly and plotting insurrection. (May God destroy him!) All this time the Government is laying traps for him and pursuing its aims against him energetically. This is the reason why the Sultan carries at Mequinez. When His Majesty intended to leave that city the aforesaid rebel planned a stroke on Mequinez, and commenced war against the tribes, expelling them from their land; but all those who submit to him he leaves undisturbed, and every one who resists his way he strikes down. In short, great excitement prevails in the Government. This intelligence afterwards spread, for it was first hidden from the people, though the circle of Government knew the truth. But it is the will of the Sultan; and his power, no doubt, with the help of God, will reach that rebel. However, I think the aim will not be reached till the middle of Shabaan. (Note.—Already passed.) There is no doubt the Sultan will go out to meet him in battle. This is the first thing; and, if God enables him to attain his desire, he will, no doubt, start for the ports. The tribes who are with that Sherref, the Beni M'gild, are mighty and unruly. They possess much wealth and a great number of horses, and there is no doubt the Sultan's army will take them, so God will, for they are men who abandon prayer, and prevent the payment of taxes, and wish to stir up all the nation.

No. 53.

M. Demare to M. Catalani.—(Communicated to the Marquis of Salisbury by M. Catalani, May 12.)

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Rome, May 5, 1888.

THE Italian Minister at Tangier has learnt that the Delegate of Morocco at the Madrid Conference will have instructions from the Sultan to raise the question of the

integrity of the Empire, and to come to an understanding on the subject with the Delegates of [Italy] and of England. The attitude of the British Minister at Tangier leads Cantagalli to suppose that the Cabinet of St. James' no longer desire this question to be brought before the Conference. Please inquire of Salisbury, and let me know exactly what is his opinion on the subject

No. 54.

Señor del Mazo to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 12)

(Translation)

My Lord,

London, May 9, 1888.

IN accordance with instructions I have received from my Government, I have the honour to point out to your Lordship that it would be advisable that, similarly to the course followed in the Conference of Berlin, the Representative of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, in the Conference to be held at Madrid to discuss the affairs of Morocco, should consider himself sufficiently accredited by simply communicating his appointment, without any special plenipotentiary powers being necessary, although such special powers would no doubt be necessary if any other Representative were appointed besides those already accredited to Her Majesty the Queen Regent.

In requesting your Lordship to be so good as to communicate to me your opinion on this matter, I have, &c.

(Signed) O. DEL MAZO.

No. 55.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green

(No. 7.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, May 14, 1888.

YOUR No. 56.

Her Majesty's Government will require modification of Protection Convention to be conditional on commercial reforms being carried out.

This is explained in No. 77 to Sir C. Ford, copy of which will be sent to you on 16th instant.

No. 56.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 49. Ext. 7.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 14, 1888.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 56, Most Confidential, of the 2nd instant, in regard to the attitude which will probably be assumed by the Sultan of Morocco and by His Sherceffian Majesty's Delegate at the Conference on the affairs of Morocco.

I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government will require that the modification of the Madrid Convention of 1880 in regard to the protection of natives shall be conditional on the carrying out by the Sultan of commercial reforms.

This is explained in my despatch to Sir C. Ford No. 77 of the 8th instant, copy of which will be sent to you for your information by the mail of the 16th instant.

The substance of the foregoing has this day been communicated to you by telegraph.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 57.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 15.)

(No. 50. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 8, 1888.

SIGNOR CANTAGALLI has informed me that he received a letter to-day from Signor Gentile, the Interpreter of the Italian Legation, whom he had sent to instal the Italian artillery officers at the Moorish Court, mentioning that he had learnt that the Sultan had been approached on the subject of the opening of diplomatic relations between Russia and Morocco by the establishment of a Russian Representative in this country.

Signor Gentile states that he has ascertained that the matter was not brought under the Sultan's notice in a direct manner by any of the foreign Representatives here, but by the Acting Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, Hadj Mohammed Zugary.

At the Sherceffian Court the belief prevails that, should a Russian Mission be established in Morocco, it will be well looked upon by the French Government. I have, therefore, no doubt that Hadj Mohammed Zugary has merely been in the question M. Féraud's mouthpiece. I trust your Lordship will not disapprove of my refraining from counselling the Moorish Government to offer objections to the coming of a Russian Representative. They could not be made on any valid grounds, and there will be ample time for watching and meeting Russian intrigues when they become more of a reality than they are at present in this country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 58.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Señor del Mazo.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, May 16, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 9th instant in which you suggest that, in accordance with the course followed at the Conference of Berlin, Her Majesty's Representative at the proposed Conference at Madrid relative to the affairs of Morocco should not be furnished with any special plenipotentiary powers.

In reply, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Sir E. Malet, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary at the West African Conference at Berlin, was furnished with a special full power, and that Sir L. West was furnished with a special full power as Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary to the Conference relative to Morocco held at Madrid in 1890.

Under these circumstances, it appears to me that a similar course might be followed on the present occasion without inconvenience.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 59.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 17.)

(No. 51. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 9, 1888.

BY my despatch No. 52, Confidential, of the 21st ultimo, I had the honour of reporting to your Lordship the hesitation which the Sherceffian Government was showing to accept the arrangement which I had been instrumental in bringing about between the American Consul and the Acting Commissioner for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the pending differences between them, and of the steps taken by me to hasten a decision whilst apparently withdrawing from all further intervention between the parties.

Mr. Reed Lewis having, a week later, received a communication from Hadj Mohamed Zugary, explaining that the Sultan's Government wished to introduce some modifications in the proposed arrangement, telegraphed for instructions to Washington, and was shortly afterwards informed that Mr. Strobel, the Secretary of the United States'

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Legation at Madrid, would be immediately sent to Tangier to assist him (Mr Reed Lewis) in arriving at a settlement with the Marquis Acting Commissioner.

On the 2nd instant Mr. Strobel reached this via Cadiz, and, at the same time, the United States' frigate "Quinnebang" arrived from Gibraltar.

Mr. Strobel called on me on the following day, and frankly told me that he regretted that his coming had been simultaneous with that of the "Quinnebang," for it was the wish of the American Government to terminate, without undue pressure, questions which had been somewhat exaggerated in importance through the local action of the Consul; and Mr Strobel expressed a hope that I would not refuse to continue an assistance which had already tended so much to diminish the unsatisfactory condition of the relations existing between Mr Reed Lewis and the Moorish authorities.

I at once placed Mr. Strobel in possession of all the details of my proceedings in the matters in question, and whilst doing so I received a special courier from Mequinez with a letter from Cid Emfadel Gharneet, replying to my note of the 30th ultimo (see Inclosure 2 in No. 52, Confidential, of the 21st April), urging me, in the Sultan's name, to continue my good offices in bringing about a termination of affairs which were already so near settlement through my previous intervention.

I immediately communicated this letter to Mr. Strobel, and pointed out that it furnished a good occasion for Mr. Reed Lewis to discuss afresh, direct with Hadj Mohammed Zagary the manner in which the arbitration for the decision of the pending differences could be carried out, especially as Mr Strobel explained to me that he would advise the Consul to only insist on the immediate settlement of the questions affecting in a direct manner the intercourse between the Moorish Government and Mr Reed Lewis, and to place the commercial claims on less pressing ground.

Mr Strobel also gladly availed himself of the tenure of Cid Emfadel Gharneet's note to me to direct the "Quinnebang" to withdraw to Gibraltar.

Several days elapsed before a complete understanding could be arrived at between Hadj Mohammed Zagary and Mr. Reed Lewis, Mr. Strobel keeping himself all the time in the background, but yesterday afternoon a revised arrangement was drawn up and signed by both the Consul and the Acting Commissioner, in which all the exacting terms originally insisted upon by Mr Reed Lewis have been modified, on a special stroke being laid on the need of prompt settlement of the Consul's complaints, though even these are to be subject to the decision of an Umpire (one of the foreign Representatives) provided direct agreement is found impossible.

Mr Strobel has to-day left on his return to Madrid, and, before doing so, was good enough to express to me his thanks for the assistance and advice which I had given him whilst he was bringing about this final agreement now arrived at.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 60

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 8.)
(Telegraphic)

Foreign Office, May 18, 1888.

COPY of No. 77 to Sir C. Ford will not be sent to you until the 23rd instant.
(Repeats telegram to Sir C. Ford No. 7.)

No. 61.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford

(No. 7.)
(Telegraphic)

Foreign Office, May 18, 1888.

YOUR despatch No. 62 of the 27th ultimo.

As Señor Moret contends that details of commercial and judicial reforms are too complicated for discussion and settlement in Conference, Her Majesty's Government will be satisfied if principles of those reforms are settled with sufficient precision and embodied in Protocol.

Her Majesty's Government will accept formula of invitation for meeting of Conference on condition that a suspending clause be inserted in the Protocol providing that

it shall not take effect until Sultan has carried out to satisfaction of the Powers reforms demanded by them.

Speak in this sense to Señor Moret.

No. 62.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 51. Confidential.)

Foreign Office, May 18, 1888.

Sir, I HAVE received your despatch No. 60, Confidential, of the 8th instant, in regard to the rumoured intention to establish diplomatic relations between Russia and Morocco, and to appoint a Russian Representative in the latter country; and I have to convey to you my approval of the attitude which you have taken up in the question, as reported in your despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 63.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 19.)

(No. 63. Confidential.)

Tangier, May 11, 1888.

My Lord,

AS some importance is attached to the matter in certain quarters here, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Moorish Government has engaged a civil engineer through Krupp's firm to superintend the efficient fortifying and arming of the Moorish ports, inclusive of Tangier.

This engineer has already arrived at Mequinez, where he was conducted by the son of the late Cid Mohammed Bargash, who was for so many years Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and who amassed a large fortune through conducting the purchases for the Sultan of European manufactures and products. M. Mansour Mohammed, the Interpreter of the German Legation, who was charged with the delivery of the letter to the Sultan announcing the death and accession of the German Emperor, is remaining at the Sheressian Court in connection with the engineer's proceedings, though, I understand, Herr Travers states that the German Legation has no part in Messrs. Krupp's undertakings in this country.

The anxiety which the Sultan is showing in military matters, and in having recourse about this to countries not in harmony with France, I consider is calculated to be of little advantage for this country, as whether the armaments adopted by His Sheressian Majesty and the fortifications that may be built are good or bad, they will in no way add to the efficiency of the defence of this Empire so long as the Sultan's control over his subjects is not less arbitrary and spasmodic and more regularized.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 64.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 19.)

(No. 68. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 14, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I had a farewell interview this afternoon with Señor Moret, the Spanish Minister of State, before my departure for the International Exhibition fêtes at Barcelona.

The conversation turned on the subject of the proposed Conference to be held at Madrid on Moorish affairs, and Señor Moret stated that he expected to receive in a very few days the reply which he was awaiting from the Moorish Minister of Foreign Affairs to the paper which he had submitted for the consideration of the Government of His Sheressian Majesty.

A translation of this paper was transmitted by me to your Lordship in my despatch No. 56, Confidential, of the 11th April.

Señor Moret went on to say that he had received a "hint" (I conclude from Señor Diosdado, the Spanish Minister at Tangier), to the effect that the instructions to

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be given to the Moorish Delegate would be found to be in accordance with the views which he (Señor Moret) had expressed in his paper. In that case, said Señor Moret, he would telegraph to me at Barcelona, and I inferred, although he did not say so in so many words, that it was his intention to proceed at once to issue his invitations.

He referred, in a tone of what appeared to me of annoyance, with regard to certain extracts which had been published of late in certain newspapers, commenting upon the proposed Conference, and in which it had been stated that its meeting had been postponed until the autumn, and in some papers it had even been assumed that the idea of holding a Conference had fallen through altogether.

Such a coincidence as the latter, said Señor Moret, would, in his opinion, be very undesirable, and in that event it would be said that France's influence, which country, it was considered, was not in favour of a Conference being held, had been powerful enough to frustrate it.

In this assertion of Señor Moret's I fancied I detected an echo of the views entertained by Count Tornelli, the Italian Ambassador at this Court, whose keenness to see the Conference assemble has never abated since his arrival in Madrid.

Señor Moret added that no time should be lost in the Conference meeting, as the hot weather would soon set in with great intensity, and that the meeting ought certainly to take place at least by the middle of the next month of June.

I replied that I thought it would be better not to show any precipitancy in the matter, but to examine first the documents which he was expecting from Morocco, and allow me an opportunity of forming some opinion upon them, which I said I should be able to do with him in the course of a very few days, as my stay at Barcelona would be a short one; and I added that, in consideration of the fact that Her Majesty's Government had expressed themselves very strongly as to their views of what was expected of the Moorish Government in the event of the Conference ever taking place, it would, it appeared to me, be expedient not to be in too great hurry about the issuing the invitations and fixing a day for the meeting of the Conference. For, I said, Her Majesty's Government might have still something to say with regard to the nature of the instructions which might be issued to the Moorish Delegate.

Señor Moret then said that the Moorish instructions, although they might be communicated to him, would be of a confidential character, and that consequently he did not think he would be able to show them to me, to which I replied that I should certainly not ask him to commit any breach of confidence, and that for my part I considered it would be deemed sufficiently satisfactory if, after having become acquainted with what the Moorish Government had to say, he should feel himself to be in a position to act, so to say, as their sponsor, and to give me an assurance that the wishes which had been so plainly and categorically enumerated by your Lordship on the part of Her Majesty's Government on the subject, and with which he was familiar, would be strictly carried out.

I must confess to your Lordship that from Señor Moret's manner, I inferred that his intention had been on the arrival of his courier from Tangier with the reply of the Moorish Government (assuming, of course, that the Moorish reply was of a satisfactory character) to telegraph the circumstance to me at once at Barcelona, and then to have issued his notes of invitation to the Powers, fixing a day for the meeting of the Conference.

Señor Moret seems to me determined to persevere with his idea of a Conference, and he almost looks to me as if he were staking his present political reputation upon its coming off, and he again repeated the oft-told tale, that should anything occur to prevent its meeting he should consider it his duty to resign his office.

In short, he appeared to me like a man unable to brook further delay, and to be actuated by a fear lest Her Majesty's Government might raise further objections with regard to the Conference which might interpose a fresh postponement of its assembling. But I again explained to his Excellency that, in my opinion, the Conference was a very serious undertaking, and should not be entered into lightly, nor its work undertaken without calm and due consideration, considering the character of the people (the Moors) with whom we should be called upon to deal, and I begged him to consent not to take any action in the matter until my return from Barcelona, when I could have another interview on the subject with him.

To this request Señor Moret finally consented, and we then parted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

No. 65.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 21.)

(No. 64. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 14, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that Signor Cantagalli called on me this afternoon to tell me that he had just received a letter from Signor Gentile, the Interpreter of the Italian Legation, who is at present at the Sherrefian Court, in which Signor Gentile states that he had been officially charged by the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs to announce to Signor Cantagalli that Hadj Mohammed Torres, who is to proceed to Madrid as Moorish Delegate to the Conference, has received the Sultan's instructions to seek the advice and support of the Italian and English Ambassadors at the Spanish Court respecting the manner in which he is to bring before the Conference Mulai Hassan's desire to obtain a pledge from the Powers as to the maintenance of the territorial integrity of the Moorish Empire.

Signor Gentile has also been informed that Hadj Mohammed Torres' instructions permit him to discuss with his foreign colleagues at Madrid the question of the modification of existing Commercial Conventions.

I understand that Cid Z. lehr Sherif will accompany to Spain the Moorish Delegate as Councillor. He was educated at Chatham, and speaks English well.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 66.

Memorandum communicated to M. Catalan.

THERE is no foundation for the supposition of the Italian Minister at Tangier that Her Majesty's Government have changed their views in regard to the importance of raising, in the proposed Conference at Madrid, the question of the integrity of Morocco. That question, in their opinion, will be found to be associated with those of commercial and judicial reforms.

The Spanish Secretary of State, in discussing the point with Her Majesty's Ambassador at Madrid, maintained that the details of commercial and judicial reforms are of too complicated a nature for discussion and settlement in Conference, and Her Majesty's Government will therefore be content if the principles of those reforms are settled with adequate precision and incorporated in the Protocol modifying the Convention of 1880. They are accordingly prepared to accept Señor Moret's formula of invitation for the meeting of the Conference, on condition that a suspensory clause shall be inserted in the Protocol providing that it shall not have effect until the Sultan of Morocco shall have carried out the reforms demanded by the Powers to their satisfaction.

Sir C. Ford was instructed by telegraph on the 18th instant to speak to Señor Moret in that sense.*

Foreign Office, May 21, 1888.

(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 67.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 63. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 21, 1888.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 61, Confidential, of the 9th instant, and I have to convey to you my approval of the action which you have taken to bring about a settlement of the differences between the United States' Consul at Tangier and the Moorish Government, as reported therein.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

Signer Launay to Signor Crispi.—(Communicated by M. Catalani, May 22.)

Berlin, le 8 Mai, 1888.

LA Légation d'Espagne à Tanger a réussi à se procurer la copie d'une lettre adressée, en date du 23 Février dernier, par ordre d'un Schérif, au Consul de France à Mogador.

Le Comte de Benomar en a fait la communication au Comte de Bismarck pour fournir un indice de plus des intrigues nouées par la France dans ces régions.

Je joins ici la traduction de cette lettre, dont j'ai été autorisé à prendre copie.

Mon collègue d'Espagne a tout lieu de croire que le Gouvernement Français vise à l'acquisition d'un port dans le Maroc, vers l'Atlantique.

(Signé) LAUNAY.

Inclosure in No. 68.

LOUANGE à Dieu seul. Que Dieu accorde ses bénédictions à notre Seigneur Mahomet et à ceux qui le suivent.

À notre ami, le Représentant à Mogador de la nation déjà connue, qui est la Française (avec la date qui se trouve à la fin de l'écrit) la paix, &c. J'ai reçu ton estimable lettre et j'ai compris tout ce que tu me mandes. Tu sauras que le porteur de celle-ci te donnera toutes les informations que l'on ne peut mettre par écrit, enfin, il est nécessaire d'accélérer l'affaire, parce que par l'activité on obtient tout, et notifie-moi ce que signifie les coups de canon que nous avons entendus sur mer du côté d'Agou; s'ils provenaient de vous, cela ne convenait pas, parce que, si les choses ne sont pas faites en secret, elles ne donnent pas de résultat. Les affaires doivent être conduites secrètement pour atteindre le but.

Une réponse sans retard.

23 Février, 1888.

Par ordre du Schérif Muley, Mohammed-ben-Husain.
En copie: Tanger, 6 Avril, 1888.

Pour conformité.

(Signé) C. BENITABY, l'Interprète

Confirmé:

(Signé) F. SOLIVIERE, Premier Secrétaire.

No. 69.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Savile.

(No. 106.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 22, 1888.

THE Italian Charge d'Affaires at this Court called at the Foreign Office on the 12th instant, and communicated to me a telegram from his Government to the following effect:

That the Italian Minister at Tangier had learned that the Delegate of Morocco at the Madrid Conference will have instructions from the Sultan to raise the question of the integrity of the Moorish Empire, and to come to an understanding on the subject with the Delegates of Italy and of England. That the attitude of the British Minister at Tangier led Signor Cantagalli to suppose that Her Majesty's Government no longer desire this question to be brought before the Conference.

M. Catalani was instructed to ascertain and report the opinion held by Her Majesty's Government upon the subject.

I informed M. Catalani, in reply, that the assumption of the Italian Minister at Tangier was incorrect, and that Her Majesty's Government had not changed their views in regard to raising in Conference the question of the integrity of Morocco, which question could not, in their opinion, be dissociated from that of commercial and judicial reforms.

The Spanish Secretary of State, in discussing the point with Sir C. Ford, had maintained that the details of commercial and judicial reforms were of too complicated a nature for discussion and settlement in Conference, and Her Majesty's Government

would therefore be content if the principles of those reforms were settled with adequate precision and incorporated in the Protocol modifying the Convention of 1880.

I added, that Her Majesty's Government were accordingly prepared to accept Señor Moret's formula of invitation for the meeting of the Conference, on condition that a suspensory clause was inserted in the Protocol, providing that it shall not have effect until the Sultan of Morocco shall have carried out the reforms demanded by the Powers to their satisfaction, and that Sir C. Ford was instructed, by telegraph, on the 18th instant, to speak to Señor Moret in this sense.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 70.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 23.)

(No. 65.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 15, 1888.

IN continuation of my despatch No. 61, Confidential, of the 9th instant, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that I have been informed by Mr. Reed Lewis that last evening he and the Sultan's Commissioners signed a Report, finally deciding all points at issue between the United States and Sherrefian Governments.

Mr. Reed Lewis has also stated to me that the Basha of Tangier has already made to him the necessary excuses with regard to the letter which the Basha had addressed to the Diplomatic Representatives here, complaining of certain of Mr. Reed Lewis' proceedings.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 71.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 84. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 24, 1888.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 68, Confidential, of the 14th instant, reporting the conversation which you had with Señor Moret upon the subject of the Morocco Conference at your farewell interview with his Excellency prior to your departure for the International Exhibition fêtes at Barcelona; and I have to convey to your Excellency my approval of the language which you used on the occasion.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 72.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 25.)

(No. 7.)

(Telegraphic.)

Madrid, May 24, 1888, 8 P.M.

YOUR despatch No. 77 of 8th instant.

I saw Minister for Foreign Affairs this afternoon.

The prospects of an early meeting of the proposed Conference on Moorish affairs loom in the far distance.

Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me confidentially that he had reason to believe that the French Minister at Tangier was intriguing with the Moorish Government to frustrate its meeting.

One thing is certain, which is that the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs has not yet made any reply to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs' demands, and is evidently holding back now that he suspects that he will be called upon to grant commercial advantages and to effect judicial reforms when the Conference meets to discuss the protection question.

I spoke to Minister for Foreign Affairs in the sense of your Lordship's despatch, and he stated that, in view of the fresh complications which had arisen, as mentioned above, he did not consider the moment opportune for discussing its contents.

No. 73.

The Marquis of Salisbury to M. Catalan.

M le Chargé d'Affaires,

Foreign Office, May 26, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to express to you my thanks for the communication, which you have been so good as to make to me, of an extract of a despatch addressed by the Italian Ambassador at Berlin on the 8th instant to the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs in regard to supposed French intrigues in Morocco.

The document, of which a copy is transmitted by Count de Launay, is no doubt of a compromising character, but there is sufficient vagueness in it to prevent Her Majesty's Government from founding any representation or other diplomatic action upon it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 74.

Sir Clara Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 29, 4 P.M.)

(No. 8.)

(Telegraphic.)

Madrid, May 29, 1888, 1-10 P.M.

A TELEGRAM appeared in leading Spanish newspaper yesterday from Tangier stating that Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who will also be Moorish Delegate at the proposed Conference, had arrived in that city.

I saw Señor Moret in the course of the day. I informed him that an impression appeared to prevail that Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs intended to come on at once to Madrid, and I expressed astonishment at the idea of his doing so when the question of the meeting of the Conference was so unsettled and undecided, and when nothing was known positively as to whether the Sultan of Morocco had been informed of his (Señor Moret's) note respecting the demands to be made upon him, or whether His Majesty was disposed to agree to them.

Señor Moret declared that there was no truth in the report that Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs was about to proceed at once to Madrid, and he stated that were he to do so without previous arrangement having been come to he would have to return to Tangier.

Señor Moret assured me positively that Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs had received, when he was at Mequinez, a copy of the notes which he assumed he must have submitted to the Sultan. He admitted, however, that he had said nothing about the suspending clause which Her Majesty's Government must insert.

Señor Moret's words to me are quite contrary to statements made in Sir W. Green's No. 68 of 3rd May.*

I warned Señor Moret not to act with precipitancy. He replied that he should follow that advice, and that we could place trust and reliance in him in the conduct of this business.

No. 75.

Sir H. Verney to Foreign Office.—(Received May 30.)

(Private.)

Dear Sir James Fergusson,

*Claydon House, Winslow, Bucks,
May 26, 1888.*

I WRITE this, which requires no reply or notice.

I hear from the captain of a ship that passes the Straits several times in the year that a fortress is being constructed on the southern shore, nearly opposite Tarrifa. If in the hands of the Spaniards, it would enable them to command the Straits.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) HARRY VERNEY

* See No. 51

No. 76.

Sir Clara Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 30.)

(No. 9.)

(Telegraphic.)

Madrid May 29, 1888.

SINCE my last telegram, sent this morning I saw Minister for Foreign Affairs, by request, this afternoon, when he stated he had received a telegram to-day from Spanish Minister at Tangier reporting conversation with Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who had lately arrived at Tangier, and who had informed him that the Moorish Government fully agreed with the programme contained in Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs' paper, copy of which was inclosed to your Lordship in my despatch No. 76 of 11th ultimo†.

Minister for Foreign Affairs likewise informed me that he had telegraphed to-day to Spanish Minister at Tangier instructing him to communicate to Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs the contents of the telegram which your Lordship had sent to me on the 18th instant, and which Minister for Foreign Affairs had previously communicated to Spanish Minister at Tangier in order that Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs should clearly comprehend what was required of him in the event of Conference meeting. Of course, no answer has been received as yet from Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs to this last communication.

Minister for Foreign Affairs was good enough to show me the despatch which he had addressed on 11th ultimo to Spanish Minister at Tangier. An important paragraph was worded as follows:—

"Instructions to Moorish Delegates. It is indispensable that they should conform with Minister for Foreign Affairs' programme, and especially with regard to the additional declarations which must be signed by the Moorish Delegates at the conclusion of the Conference."

As regards the suspensory clause alluded to in your Lordship's despatch No. 77 of the 8th instant, to be inserted in the Protocol, Minister for Foreign Affairs is of opinion that the present is not an opportune moment for raising the point with the Moorish Government, inasmuch as they have been clearly informed that all modifications of the protection system are considered as dependent on the Moorish Government carrying out the commercial and judicial reforms required by Her Majesty's Government.

The present state of the Conference question is as follows:—

1. Minister for Foreign Affairs is waiting for the answer of the Moorish Government to the demands contained in your Lordship's telegram of 18th May; and

2. He is waiting to confer with French Ambassador on his return from Barcelona, and to ascertain from him officially the reply of the French Government to his programme.

Should these two points be settled satisfactorily, Minister for Foreign Affairs is desirous of losing no further time in issuing his invitations, the formula of which has been accepted by Her Majesty's Government, and he informed me confidentially that he would like to see the Conference assembled not later than 25th June next.

In the event of Her Majesty's Government raising no objection, I conclude that full powers will be made out in due course for Her Majesty's Delegate, and that the proper authority will be sent to enable him to represent the Kingdom of Denmark at the Conference.

No. 77.

Sir Clara Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 30, 11 P.M.)

(No. 10.)

(Telegraphic.)

Madrid, May 30, 1888, 8-20 P.M.

HAVE just received a telegram from Sir W. Green to the following effect. I repeat it, as he does not mention having sent it to your Lordship:—

"My Spanish colleague leaves to-night for Seville, and possibly for Madrid. He considers Moorish Delegate has sufficient powers. Latter, however, tells me that he is only empowered to demand charter of protection and discuss about commercial and judicial reforms generally, that is, to decide nothing on these questions without Sultan's permission. He will proceed to Madrid immediately he receives a summons from Spanish Minister of State. I understand Sultan and Delegate would be both enchanted if Conference was knocked on the head."

* See No. 28.

† See No. 51.

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This appears to me to be a most ominous telegram; and I think it would be advisable to be very cautious in accepting Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs' invitation for meeting until everything is perfectly clearly explained and understood. The action of the Moorish Government appears to me to be open to grave suspicion; and I also fear that Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs errs on the side of placing too great a reliance on Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs' assertions.

No. 78.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 31)

(No. 66. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 23, 1888.

IN connection with my despatch No. 64, Confidential, of the 14th instant, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that Signor Cantagalli this morning called on me and informed me that he had just received a letter from Signor Gentile at Mequinez, giving the following as the heads of the instructions which Abd-el-Hadj Mohamed Torres has received from the Sultan for his guidance as Maroccan Delegate at the coming Conference at Madrid:—

To demand (1) abolition of foreign protection of native "semiers" in the employ of foreign merchants; (2) naturalization of natives of Morocco in foreign countries not to entail foreign nationality and privileges when said natives return to this country; (3) abolition of Article XVI, under the forced interpretation of which the Shercoof of Wazan has been declared a French protégé; (4) restrictions to be placed on the manner in which natives can contract loans from foreigners; (5) restrictions to be placed on the power of natives to enter into contracts with foreigners for the cultivation of their lands and for other agricultural purposes; and (6) payment of agricultural taxes to be made by foreigners direct to the native authorities, and not through their Consular Representatives. Hadj Mohamed Torres is further authorized to discuss, but *ad referendum* to the Sultan, the extension of commercial advantages by Convention with foreign States.

Signor Gentile adds to Signor Cantagalli that he heard Cid Pinfadi Gharnet repeat the Sultan's instructions to the Moorish Delegate to be careful to put himself in accord with the Italian and English Ambassadors at Madrid.

It is perhaps, needless that I should observe here to your Lordship that the foregoing heads of the instructions which Hadj Mohamed Torres is about to carry with him to Madrid are not calculated to bring to a satisfactory conclusion the labours of the Conference. As I have foreseen, the Moorish Delegate is to attempt to lighten the barriers which already impede free intercourse between Moors and foreigners. But even temporary success in this direction can only inevitably end in the ruin of Morocco. I therefore feel bound to urge now that no concessions approaching the demands to be brought forward by Hadj Mohamed Torres may be agreed to except under formal arrangement that they are to be simultaneously accompanied by stipulated commercial and judicial reforms.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 79

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 31)

(No. 67.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 23, 1888.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 64, Confidential, of the 14th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Signor Cantagalli tells me that Signor Gentile at Mequinez announces to him that news had been received at the Shercoofian Court of the assassination of the leader of the insurrection among the Berber tribes around Mequinez, Cid Abd-el-Malek-el-Marani, together with eighteen of his immediate adherents.

As the Sultan is about to lead in person the troops which are to operate against the insurgents, I think the above report of El-Marani's death must be accepted with caution, for in those countries false accounts of the destruction of one's enemies are resorted to for the purpose of encouraging those operating against them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 80.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 31, 4.25 p.m.)

(No. 11.)

(Telegraphic.)

Madrid, May 31, 1888, 1.40 p.m.

MY telegram No. 9 of the 29th instant

Señor Moret informed me in a private letter late last evening that Spanish Minister at Tangier had fulfilled his orders, and had presented to Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs the contents of your Lordship's telegram to me of the 18th instant, and that the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs was, to quote Señor Moret's exact words, "all right, and wants the Conference to be summoned as soon as possible." Of course Spanish Minister at Tangier was silent on the point of the suspensory clause required by Her Majesty's Government.

In view of the contradictory reports received by me from Sir W. Green and from Señor Moret with regard to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs' real intentions as to the line of action he proposes to take at the Conference, I would venture to suggest that great caution should be exercised in agreeing to any proposal which Señor Moret may make to precipitate a meeting of the Conference. Señor Moret strikes me as being very easily satisfied with the bold assurances he has received from the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs through the Spanish Minister at Tangier, and that if he can only succeed in getting the Conference convened, he will trust to luck in pulling him through it.

For my part, I would place greater confidence in Sir W. Green's opinion on this matter than on the statements made by the Spanish Minister at Tangier. The latter, I understand, quitted Tangier yesterday for Seville.

No. 81

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 4.)

(No. 68.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 25, 1888.

IT is with extreme reluctance that I feel bound to bring under your Lordship's notice a matter which, being connected with the intercourse existing between the French and British Legations here, I should have much wished to have settled in a direct manner with M. Féraud rather than occupy an instant of your Lordship's valuable time with its consideration. I trust, however, that your Lordship will find that I have not taken a wrong view of the principles involved in the question, and that whilst firmly guarding British rights, I have shown every readiness to facilitate, by conciliatory action, an understanding with my French colleague. Indeed, even now, though M. Féraud and I hold different views in the affairs, we have not allowed them to disturb the course of our most cordial friendship.

On the morning of the 28th September last Ci Hamed Booshenska, the Senior Arabic Scribe of this Legation who, by virtue of his office, is a British-protected subject, informed me that during the past night a mare and colt of his which had been robbed during the previous day together with a mare and colt belonging to another Moor of his native village of Swanee, which is in the immediate neighbourhood of this town, had been recovered through the assistance of the inhabitants of Swanee, but that the robbers, who had been seized and delivered to the Basha of Tangier, had been liberated at the demand of the French Minister.

I have the honour to furnish herewith a translation of the account of the recovery of the mares, drawn up at my request by Hadj Mohamed Ebu Had, Hamed, the person in charge of the land at Swanee belonging to this Legation, who was one of the party who recovered the stolen mares.

Ci Hamed Booshenska, on preferring his complaint, was directed by me to call on M. Féraud and to present to him my compliments, together with a request that he should hear the Scribe's account of the robbery, in order that the robbers might be returned to the custody of the Basha.

The French Minister, however, refused to listen to Ci Hamed, launching out in unmeasured abuse of the inhabitants of Swanee (the Scribe is a Swaneeman), whom he termed licensed thieves and robbers and the scourge of Tangier. I, nevertheless, declined to attach importance to the report of my colleague's manner of receiving my

complaint, transmitted through Ci Hamed, and determined to speak myself on the matter with M. Féraud, on the first favourable opportunity.

The opportunity presented itself on the same afternoon, when my French colleague repeated to me his language concerning the inhabitants of Swanee, and added that I had been misinformed regarding the whole occurrence, which was simply an unprovoked outrage committed on the property and servants of a French subject. I replied that I would not attempt to combat a preconceived idea of the French Legation of the character of the Swanee people, for, according to my own recollections and knowledge, the idea had been in existence for upwards of thirty years, and had, unfortunately, been the frequent cause of much friction between the French and British Legations. I would merely request M. Féraud to refrain from impeding the action of the competent Tribunal, which was, in this instance, the Basha's Court, and not the French Legation. I had not attempted and would not claim to judge the robbers myself, as they were Moors, unentitled to French protection, I could not permit M. Féraud's interference of releasing the accused before the Basha had decided whether they were guilty or not. I quoted Article IX of the Convention of Madrid, 1880, to show that the alleged robbers were amenable to native jurisdiction, but the French Minister persisted in his right to protect the Moors, and, furthermore, brought a charge against the Swanee people for assault and infraction of a French domicile, and demanded of the Basha that they should be punished both by fine and imprisonment.

I declined to allow the Basha to proceed against the men who had assisted, according to the laws of the country, a British-protected subject in recovering his stolen property until he was first permitted to judge freely the charge brought against the robbers. I clearly stated that, as soon as the competence of his Court was admitted, and he had condemned or acquitted the accused, I would make no further opposition to his hearing the complaints which the French Minister might have to bring against the Swanee people. I merely declined to allow that the French Minister should cause men who had fulfilled their duties as rural police on behalf of a British protégé to be punished for having so done. Otherwise the will of the French Legation would have to be accepted as the controller of the intercourse between British subjects and protégés and the Moorish authorities.

I must here state that at my first meeting with M. Féraud on this matter he told me that from inquiries he had instituted, he had ascertained that, besides the violent assault committed on the two accused men by those of Swanee, a revolver had been abstracted from the garden hut. Now the damage has developed into a value of 100L.

Four months then elapsed during which M. Féraud several times called upon me to explain whether I had claim to extend protection to all the villagers of Swanee who had assisted the British-protected subject in the recovery of his stolen mare and colt, which the French Minister persisted in stating had never been stolen, but had been simply detained by the orders of the French proprietor of the garden, where the cattle had strayed and trespassed, that no very might be claimed for the damage done by them.

I, on each occasion, replied that I claimed to protect none of the villagers in question, but merely insisted that the men who had been imprisoned by the Basha pending their trial and who had been released at M. Féraud's demand, should be restored to the Basha's keeping and jurisdiction. Until that was done, I would require of the Basha to permit me to intervene on behalf of the Swanee people in the same manner as he permitted the French Minister to interfere in favour of the alleged robbers.

At the end of four months M. Féraud called on me and told me that he had decided on restoring the two men to the Governor's custody; he hoped, therefore, I would withdraw from protecting the Swanee people. I assured him that, on receiving notice from the Basha of the reimprisonment of the two men, I would at once renew my charge against them, and then inform the Basha that I no longer opposed his hearing the French charge against the Swanee peasants and acting as he might deem justice required.

In accordance with this agreement, I sent a few days later Mr Haine Siesu, the native Interpreter of this Legation, in company with Ci Hamed Boosbenaka's representative, to the Basha's Court, to substantiate the charge of robbery against the two prisoners. The Swanee people had been summoned before the Basha at the same time.

Mr Haine Siesu found assembled at the local Court M. de la Forest, the Chancellor of the French Legation, and a native interpreter of the same office. He explained to the Basha that as soon as he (the Basha) had examined and decided the case against the

two men the British Legation would accept his decision and have nothing further to say in the matter. Hereupon M. de la Forest interceded with some uncalled for expressions with regard to the personality of Mr Haine Siesu, and informed the Basha that he had come to his Court to obtain the condemnation of the Swanee people and not to be present at a prior hearing of a case brought forward by the British Legation. The British Interpreter, following the instructions he had received, then announced to the Basha that as Ci Hamed Boosbenaka's complaint had been the first to be received by him, he must hear it first before he could condemn the Swanee people for having illegally arrested two men accused of horse-stealing.

The Basha, showing signs that he accepted this view of the matter, and M. de la Forest finding that he could not obtain the unconditional condemnation of the villagers, withdrew from the Court, as did also all those who had attended it.

A few days later the communication, of which the inclosed is a translation, was handed to me from the Basha by one of his confidential officers, who was at the same time instructed to relate to me how he had been summoned to the French Legation where he found M. Féraud surrounded by the whole of his staff, and whereupon the sum of 500 dollars was counted out and paid over to M. St. Jean, the proprietor of the garden and employer of the two men accused of horse-stealing, as compensation for the damage alleged to have been done to his property by the stolen horses and the people who had recovered the animals. The Basha's officer was asked to sign, as witness, the deed which set forth the payment of the aforesaid sum, which he declined to do, and was informed that M. Féraud would exact restitution of the money through the Sultan.

I have the honour to furnish your Lordship, herewith, with a translation of my reply to the Basha's letter. I felt that I could not do otherwise than suggest the release of the all-got robbers for it would have been absurd for me to expect the Basha to try them impartially after the process of intimidation to which he had been subjected by the solemn assurance which M. Féraud had thought fit to make the assumption of the law in his own hands, though the payment of the exorbitant sum which he and I even upon as a proper compensation for a legal trespass on a Frenchman's property.

At the same time bearing in mind M. Féraud's threat to the Basha's offer that he would exact payment through the Sultan, seemed it prudent to write privately and confidentially to Cid Ezzel Gharneet at Mequinez, explaining to his Excellency the view I had taken of the affair and my action thereon. The inclosed is a translation of my letter to the Marquise Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Nothing further was heard by me on this business until the 20th April, when I received a letter from Cid Ezzel Gharneet, of which the inclosed is a translation. I also on the 22nd April, was addressed to the same effect by the Basha and I suggest, as appears by the accompanying translation of his letter.

The Moorish authorities informed me that the Sultan, having considered the question which had arisen concerning the payment by the villagers of Swanee of a fine of 500 dollars, had directed that the sum should be levied by the Basha from the said peasants, and that it should be placed in the hands of some independent person, when the difference of opinion between M. Féraud and myself could be examined either by Hadj Mohamed Torres or by one of the foreign Representatives who would pronounce whether the money should be paid to M. Féraud or returned to the villagers.

I informed the Basha in reply to his note that, in my opinion, the time had not arrived for him to act upon the Sultan's suggestions. I felt that I could not admit that M. Féraud's arbitrary act of handing over 100L to a Frenchman deprived the British Legation of the position of priority it had acquired in the local Courts by bringing a charge of robbery against some Moors who were subsequently in defiance of all right, momentarily declared by the French Minister to be under French protection.

I however, considering that M. Féraud and I had somewhat unnecessarily invoked the intervention of the Moorish authorities in our divergent views of the affair in question, called upon my French colleague and explained to him that I thought it would be more seemly of us not to pounce between us the Moorish Government, which was too weak and unaccustomed to try matters purely on their merits to offer as much chance of assistance in bringing about a satisfactory termination of our dispute. The intervention of the Moorish Government, indeed, could only tend to degenerate into a struggle between M. Féraud and myself of influence and pretensions. I therefore suggested that we should both refer the whole question to our respective superiors, and thus show that we were solely desirous of safeguarding principles which we each believed were of great importance to us, and that we were not ultimately attached to our own opinions.

M. Féraud declined my suggestion on the plea that neither of us had time to waste in drawing up statements of such annoying matters. But, during our conversation

having repeatedly implied that our differences of opinion depended upon my persistent manner of taking a narrow view of presumed facts, and having in proof of this adduced his seven years' amicable intercourse with Mr. Drummond Hay at Tripoli, and his uninterrupted friendly relations of three years' duration with Sir John Drummond Hay here, I offered M. Féraud to divest myself of the whole affair, and to ask my predecessor, who is still residing here, to do me the favour of coming, on my behalf, to an understanding with M. Féraud, on the matter.

After some hesitation M. Féraud accepted my proposal, and my former Chief, Sir John Drummond Hay, most kindly consented to represent me with my French colleague.

But I regret to have to report to your Lordship that, after considerable discussion, my predecessor was only able to ascertain that the French Minister declined to enter upon an examination of the merits of the whole affair, and firmly maintained his right to levy unquestioned the fine which he has fixed, without examination of witnesses or hearing the defence of the Swane people, should be paid by these villagers for having fulfilled their obligation of rural police surveillance and action when a robbery or other crime is perpetrated within their communal zone.

To Sir John Drummond Hay's observations that he had set aside by his action the jurisdiction of the local authorities, M. Féraud replied that he had been forced into doing so as the French claimant, having failed in his enterprises here, was leaving the country and could not brook delay in receiving compensation, of which he was much in need, being penniless. Besides, M. Féraud added, he had been so attacked in the French press for his supineness in protecting and supporting the interests of his countrymen that he felt he could not permit M. St. Jean to depart with a grievance against him.

It is for these reasons, my Lord, that British subjects and subjects are called upon to give way. The demands of an impecunious Frenchman, under the support of the French Legation in Morocco, are to be on no account denied. If I have been wrong in combating these pretensions, it must be understood for the future that those employed by this Legation, and British subjects in general, are not to count on the due application of the laws of this country or upon the rights acquired under Treaty when a Frenchman may come to come between them and the Moorish Government and authorities. The levying of the fine on the people, who, by a duty imposed by the customs of this country, were bound to pursue horse stealers who had robbed in their district, would have the effect hereafter of depriving all British subjects of support and succour when suffering at the hand of Moorish highwaymen, robbers, or even murderers.

Before concluding, it is needful that I should point out that had the stolen cattle been really found trespassing they should have been conveyed to the public pound. M. Féraud considers that French subjects are not bound to know of such an institution, and that by disregarding its existence they are entitled to build up a valid claim whereby a village may be reduced to ruin, for 500 dollars is a sum in this country which a Basha, when levying it, would be careful to swell out into as many thousands.

I must also add that one of the two men accused of horse-stealing is a notorious robber and cattle lifter, and that the Basha was perfectly aware that, for a considerable time past, M. St. Jean's garden had been used as a hiding-place for the robberies perpetrated by this man.

Finally, your Lordship will observe that this question furnishes a very good example of the abuses to which the system of foreign protection of natives may lead to, and how utterly incapable the Moorish Government is to resist, unassisted, its most flagrant encroachments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure I in No. 81

Statement by Hadj Muhammad-ben-Hadj Hemed of Swan

Translation.

PRAISE be to God in that which has happened.

The animals were grazing below the "medsher" (village) called Adawi, on the ground of Hadj Abdeslam-ben-el-Hadj Abdallah, neighbouring to the garden of Beringhan, hobbled. At noon their owner went to water them as usual, but did not find them whereupon he went to his own garden to inquire of the matter, he also told his brother-in-law, Hadj Abdallah Booznakar, and they went off, each one in a different direction, to inquire about them at the villages. Hadj Abdeslam's son went to the

village of Esh-Sharf and asked the people about them, but they knew nothing of the animals. His brother-in-law Hadj Abdallah, went to the village of El-Azib, but could obtain no information, he then went also to the villages of Ben Diban and Beni Mekadda, with no better result, the villages are still in existence at the present day. The father of the afore-mentioned son also went to look among the gardens, but found nothing, then he went to the town, thinking that they might be in the Sultan's "ghourna" (public pound), and he asked the guardian of the pound, but found he knew nothing about the horses. He also returned to him and asked him a second time, but found nothing. And after this when the above-mentioned son was returning from the village of Esh-Sharf, between sunset and the "Asba" (call to prayer about an hour after sunset), when he arrived above the marsh of the former Minister, Sir John, he saw the mare's colt near the bridge of the "wad" (river), coming out; he made for him, and found four men carrying their guns, two of whom were leading their horses and the other two in front. When they saw the youth approaching them they understood that he was the owner of the horses, and they returned with them to the garden, and the two who were leading them entered the garden after them. The two others remained behind, seeing the boy, and when he came near them the one called out to the other "Fire," and they discharged two shots at him but God preserved him. Then the boy fled to the village, shouting to his brethren of the Swan community and all of them, great and small, at the "Asba," went to the spot where the shot had been fired, and there they found the foot prints of the horses and the land for was ready to leading into the garden. When they arrived at the door of the garden they found one of the gardeners on the point of firing on anybody who should approach and shoot, the slave (negro), inside the stable with the horses in a state of excitement. When they saw the man with the gun about to fire, a man of the Swan community came and each entered the garden from a different side and they surrounded the man who was leading them. After they had seized him and he was in their hands, he begged to be saved by his companion, by name, and said, "Save me, give them back their horses," but they were inside the stable with their horses, and prevented the people from opening the wings of the door, and opened the lock, and they found the slave lying on the ground with the horses with straw and hay before them. And they took the slave and the horses out of the stable, and when the men wanted to take the slave to the Basha of the town, they left at the afore-mentioned garden four of the members, intelligent and respectable men, to guard the place, after having given them recommendations, and they guarded it. Then the Swan community brought the thieves to the Basha, and found him asleep, they knocked at his door, and an attendant came out to them and asked them what they had come for at such an hour. They explained the matter to him, and he returned to the Basha and related to him what they had said. The Basha ordered him to go with them to the head of the prison, and he told the latter, in the Basha's name, to put the thieves into prison and that the men of Swan should return to him in the morning, and every one went his way. As to the four guards whom the community had left at the garden the two other men, who had fired at the boy, came to them to the garden early before sunrise, after they had been found by a Taler named Abdeslam Abetto being in a field of maize. Thus Taler was looking for a cow that had escaped and he accidentally found the thief lying in the field, and he said to him, "Go about your business, or we will shoot you." When they arrived at the garden one of them called out to the gardener, and one of the guards a sword. Then that his brethren had gone to prison. On hearing this they fled into Targier, and afterwards one of the guards followed his footsteps into the town and informed some of his relations of the fact, and that one of those who had fired at the boy had just entered the town, and they went with him to the principal mosque and found the two miscreants leaning against the wall of the mosque in a nest, and they seized them on the indication of the boy whom they fired at, and took them to the Basha; there they found his Khalifa (forum tenens) Sid Allal Es-Saah, and he recognized one of the two men to be the son of Abd el-Malek-el-Musawweri, and the Khalifa rebuked him, saying, "Son of iniquity! wilt thou not fear God and respect other men's property?" He then put them into prison. An hour after they had been put into prison the French Legation sent their soldier, named Akalai, to the Basha, and told him that the French Minister ordered him to release the two gardeners, and he released them and sent them to the Minister, and when they arrived the latter ordered them to return to the garden and sent with them his soldier named El-Ayasin, and he found the guards still stopping there. Then the soldier told the two gardeners to look at their things and see that nothing had disappeared, and they did so and found everything there, excepting a gun-

cover, 1 dollar and a ragged hark. The soldier then said: "This is what you have lost," and they answered as above. Then the soldier spoke to the guards and to them to go about their business, and he to them in the name of the French Minister, that if one of their men should come again to the garden the gardeners would shoot him, as the Minister had instructed them to do. After they had gone away the two men who had been captured near the mosque and imprisoned were released immediately by the Basha, after he had taken from them 75 dollars.

I certify the above to be a true translation.

(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEU

Inclosure 2 in No. 81

The Basha of Tangier to Sir W. K. Green.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

WITH regard to the case at issue between the Frenchman and the people of Suani, the latter stated that they had found their animals in the Frenchman's garden, but the Frenchman said that his servants had found the animals grazing in his garden and had brought them to him to the garden of the Christian (Spanish) Anselmo, and that he had permitted them to bring them back to his own garden, until their owners should appear and compensate him for the damage done by them; they then brought them back to the garden and kept them until the people of Suani came and took them away from thence, seized the Frenchman's servants and brought them (two) to me, when upon I put them into prison and they took their animals. After that the French Minister sent to me asking for their release, and I released them, he demanded also the value of the things which had been stolen from the Frenchman, as well as an indemnity for the trespass of the people of Suani on the latter's ground, and I sent to you asking you to direct the people of Suani to come up before me in order to settle the Frenchman's demand, but you answered that they should not come up until the Frenchman's servants returned to prison. Then I sent for them and put them back into prison, and informed you of this by my soldier, and your interpreter, Ham Suesu, came to me with him (the soldier) from you, and he found each of the two men in prison by himself, and heard from them what my soldier and Ham Suesu communicated to you. Then the French Minister sent for my soldier, Abdel Malik, and when he came into his presence the Minister said that he wished 500 dollars being paid to the Frenchman as an indemnity for the trespass and for what had been stolen from him, and he paid over that amount to him in the presence of my soldier, and sent to me to say that I must enforce the payment of this sum by the Suani people, and I sent to you for them for the settlement of this claim, but you answered that I had nothing to say to them. Now, I request you to send up the Suani people to me for the settlement of this claim, or else to judge the matter yourself with the French Minister and rid me of the affair. Pray let me know your views without delay. Peace.

Dated the 18th Jumady I, 1305 (1st February, 1888).

(Signed)

ABDESSADAK-BEN-AHMED

Inclosure 3 in No. 81

Sir W. K. Green to the Basha of Tangier

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

AFTER a lapse of four months you inform me that you have been allowed by the French Legation to place once more under your jurisdiction the two Moors who were charged by the Fekit a Ahmed Booshenaka, one of the Arabic Secretary's of this Legation, with the robbery of his mare, and who, when found in possession of the animal and conveyed to you, were set at liberty by you on the demand of the French Legation.

You also inform me that the French Legation has, on the plea of the people who arrested the above described two men having committed a trespass on the property of a Frenchman where the mare was found concealed, condemned those people without a hearing to a fine of 500 dollars, without regard to those people being Moorish subjects, and only amenable to your jurisdiction.

Under these circumstances I can only consider the action of the French Legation as

a direct interference with the independence of your Court, and as calculated to prejudice the position of the complainant Booshenaka in the matter of the charge brought against the two alleged horse stealers.

When you can inform me that your freedom of jurisdiction is complete, and that you do not merely fulfil the position of the Executive in enforcing sentences delivered against Moorish subjects by the French Legation then I shall be prepared to support anew the charge against the two presumed robbers. In the meantime, I suggest that you should liberate the two men until the charge against them can be properly followed up.

Peace.

(Signed)

W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 81.

Sir W. K. Green to Cid Emfadel Gharnet

(Translation.)

(Private and Confidential.)

(After compliments.)

I WRITE these few words to your Excellency, in a private and confidential manner, in order to inform you of an incident which has occurred between the Legations of France and England, and in which the Basha of Tangier is a party.

During the past autumn some mares were stolen from the village of Swane, a suburb of Tangier. One of the mares happened to belong to the Taleb Boosheka of this Legation. His servants and traders of Swane searched for the stolen horses but not finding them, posted guards at night at the different passes, knowing that the robbers would, under darkness, endeavour to reach the mountains. Some hours after dark the horses in charge of two men were seen approaching one of the passes. On being summoned to stop the two robbers fired at the guards, and then escaped back towards the Swane gardens. They were followed up by the traces of their footprints to a certain garden, where their admittance was demanded, it was refused by the gardener and his assistant on the plea that there were no horses in the place. But the pursuers being certain that the robbers had passed the stolen animals there, forced their way in and discovered the horses hidden in a hut. The gardener and his assistant were secured, and, at daylight, were conveyed by the Swane people to the Basha together with the other two robbers, who were caught later in the morning.

The Basha was about to try the case when he received a message from the French Legation, calling upon him to deliver up the gardener and assistant on the ground that they were French-protected subjects from a hut in the employ of a Frenchman, the owner of the garden in which the mares were found hidden.

The Basha on being obliged to liberate the gardener and assistant, felt he could not detain the other two robbers, so he let all go, sending the first two down to the French Legation.

The French Legation then put forward a claim for damages done to the Frenchman's garden and for the arrest of his servants by the Swane people. I have informed the Basha that if he acknowledged the right of the French Legation to protect the two robbers (the gardener and assistant), he too would claim to protect, against the demands of the French Legation, the Swane people who had assisted in the recovery of my Taleb's stolen property. But I told the Governor also that I would acknowledge his jurisdiction to the fullest extent if he could exercise it freely and without hindrance from the side of the French Legation. I persistently demanded that the Basha should be enabled to rearrest the alleged robbers, and try the case against them brought by me.

After four months the Basha has at last informed me that the French Legation had allowed him to arrest the two Moors in question, but that at the same time it caused one of the Basha's soldiers to witness the payment by the French Minister to the French subject of 500 dollars, which the Minister had decided should be paid to the French subject by the Swane people as compensation for the alleged damages committed by them to his garden.

I understand that the Frenchman asserts that the mares, which were considered to have been stolen, had really been passed on his property, and that he had ordered their detention in order to deliver them over to their owners, from whom he wished to recover damages. In this matter, too, if it was true, there would have been no need to decide over the head of the Moorish authorities, disregarding the existence of the public pound.

Considering that the extraordinary proceedings at the French Legation must act

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injuriously on the free judgment of the Basha, who is the only competent authority here to judge and condemn Moorish subjects, I have necessarily declined to submit to his decision the case of my Taleb against the two men until I feel sure that the Basha will be perfectly independent and free to act according to his untrammelled conscience. The inclosed letter, written by me to him, explains the position taken by me in this matter.

Your Excellency will understand that it would be disastrous for the Sultan's Government to admit that any foreign authority here has the power to condemn, on its own motion, without even hearing Moorish subjects in their defence, to the payment of fines. To-day the French Legation has attempted to levy a fine of 500 dollars on some Moorish villagers because it chooses to believe the story of a French subject, who some time ago was admitted to have falsely charged the same villagers with having fired at him. If the Basha permits this encroachment on his jurisdiction, to-morrow he may find other foreign Legations requiring ten times 500 dollars from other villagers on their simple requisition. In fact, the Basha would thus find himself transformed into a simple collector of fines imposed on Moors for the benefit of unscrupulous foreigners.

I hope the Sultan will understand that I am, in the present case, standing up just as much for his rights as for my own, and that no greater abuse of the system of protection could be adduced at the coming Madrid Conference than the present attempt of the French Legation to prevent men accused of cattle-stealing from being properly tried by the local Moorish authorities.

(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure 5 in No. 81.

Cid Eufadi Gharnit to Sir W. K. Green.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

I HAVE received your private letter explaining the facts of the affair of the horses which were stolen from the village of Suani, one of which belonged to your Scribe (Cid Hadj Ahmed Boonaker, and saying that the French merchant in whose garden the stolen horses were found wished to defend his gardener and the latter's mate, on the pretence that those animals had only entered the garden for the purpose of grazing and were not stolen, and that he detained them until he should find their owners and obtain from them compensation, although the facts of the matter are otherwise, and his authorities have admitted his untruthfulness. You say also that the Basha is the competent Judge in this affair, and that taking the matter out of his hands would bring about the harm to this country which you specify; you also relate what passed between you and the Basha on the subject, as appears from the copies of the two letters you inclosed.

I have communicated your letter to my Lord the Sultan, and His Majesty has taken cognizance of all you therein state, and as the French Minister has given information to the contrary effect, the Sultan has been pleased to issue his order to the Basha of Tangier to require that sum to be paid by the people in question, and to deposit the same in trust with any one whom he may judge fit, and that the proofs (documents) of the plaintiffs and defendants be examined by whomsoever they may agree upon, and if justice be on the side of the owner of the garden, the money be handed over to his Minister, but otherwise that it be returned to its owners. Peace.

Finished the 18th Rejeb, 1305 (31st March, 1888).

(Signed) MUHAMMED-EL-MUFADDAL-BEN-MUHAMMED GHARNIT.

Inclosure 6 in No. 81.

The Basha of Tangier to Sir W. K. Green.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

10th Shaaban, 1305.

I HAVE received a letter from my Lord the Sultan saying that the French Minister has informed His Shereefian Majesty that about thirty of the people of Swanee made an attack by night on the garden of a French merchant, stole away property therefrom, and inflicted damage, the whole of which he estimated at 500 dollars, and that he had paid over that sum to the Frenchman in question in his office to appease

him and put an end to discussion, and he demanded of us to recover this sum from them and remit to him. I answered that I was prevented from doing this by the opposition of the English in favour of the Swanee people. Now our Lord the Sultan has commanded me to recover the money from the people in question and place it in the hands of Torres or of one of the foreign Representatives here in trust after consultation with some of the foreign Representatives, and that you (the Basha) should examine the proofs (documents) of the Swanee people, the defendants, and if right should be found to be on the side of the claimant you should pay over the money to the French Minister, but if not, the money should be restored to its owners, and that I should inform the Sultan when that has been done. I request you to let me know your view on this subject without fail. May God bless you.

(The Seal of the Basha of Tangier).

No. 82.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 4.)

(No. 66. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 28, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that Cid-el-Hadj Mohammed Torres returned here from the Shereefian Court at Mequinez yesterday, for the purpose of proceeding to Madrid as soon as he may receive an intimation that the projected Conference is about to assemble there.

I called this morning on his Excellency, when he informed me that he will be accompanied by Hadj Abaelam Helu as Second Moorish Delegate to the Conference, and that he will probably have no special native interpreter with him, confiding in the assistance of Señor Rinaldi, the Interpreter of the Spanish Legation, who, it appears, is expected to assist at the meetings of the Conference as Arabic Interpreter. Padre Lerchundi is also to proceed to Madrid to assist Hadj Mohammed Torres in his intercourse with his foreign colleagues.

To my questioning the Moorish Commissioner for Foreign Affairs replied as follows:—

"I am going to Madrid to ask at the Conference the restoration of the Sultan's freedom of action in his own country, and consequently the abolition of foreign protection of natives."

"And after that?" inquired I.

"Oh, of course," said Mohammed Torres, "I know I must mention that the Sultan, as soon as he regains his full liberty over his subjects, intends to abolish oppression and establish justice in his dominions."

"And what about commercial reforms?"

"Even here," said the Moorish Commissioner, "I am to announce His Shereefian Majesty's intention to take into favourable consideration the extension of commercial intercourse."

"Have you full powers to treat decisively on these matters?" was my next inquiry.

"Certainly not," was the reply, with the confidential addition, "and I shall take very good care not to decide anything except under direct orders from the Sultan."

Thus, your Lordship will observe that the Moorish Delegate is proceeding to Madrid simply under instructions to demand shortly the abolition of foreign protection of natives in Morocco, and to make known, in a vague manner, the Sultan's intentions at some future time to reform his administration, and to consider the basis of his commercial relations with the outer world.

These wishes and intentions, too, are to be made known to the foreign Representatives at Madrid—for Hadj Mohamed Torres speaks only Arabic—through the medium of Señor Rinaldi or Padre Lerchundi, neither of whom can be considered as simple interpreters, but must be looked upon as most astute political agents of the Spanish Government.

When I inquired of the Moorish Delegate as to his reported instructions (*vide* my No. 66, Confidential, of the 23rd instant) to put himself in accord with the British and Italian Ambassadors, his Excellency admitted that he was the bearer of special letters from the Shereefian Government to the Ambassadors of England, Italy, France, and Germany, conveying to their Excellencies the Sultan's request to support, by their counsels, His Majesty's Delegate.

In the most confidential manner Hadj Mohammed Torres expressed to me the conviction that he was intrusted with a thankless mission, doomed to failure, and that he was "in the hands of God."

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 83.

M. Catalani to Foreign Office.—(Received June 4.)

Cher Sir Julian,

19, Grosvenor Square, le 3 Juin, 1888.

LE Ministre d'Italie au Maroc a informé le Gouvernement du Roi des démarches qui auraient été faites par l'entremise de l'interprète de la Légation d'Allemagne à Tanger pour induire le Sultan à établir, avec l'admission d'une Légation Turque au Maroc, des relations diplomatiques avec le Gouvernement Ottoman.

Des démarches analogues auraient été faites contemporanément par des hauts personnages Marocains à Constantinople.

Toutefois, ces efforts n'auraient eu jusqu'ici aucun résultat à cause des menaces qui auraient été faites par la France pour les contrecarrer.

Par suite des instructions reçues de mon Gouvernement, j'ai l'honneur d'avoir recours à votre obligeance en vous priant de vouloir bien me faire savoir si le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine a été informé de ce qui précède et s'il est d'avis que les renseignements aient aucun fondement.

Dans le cas affirmatif je vous serais très reconnaissant si vous vouliez bien me faire connaître l'avis du Marquis de Salisbury à ce sujet.

En vous remerciant d'avance, je suis, &c.

(Signé) T. CATALANI

No. 84

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. Kirby Green.

(No. 9.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, June 4, 1888, 4.50 P.M.

HAVE you heard anything of a proposal from Constantinople for diplomatic relations with Morocco? Have you advised Moorish Government against it?

No. 85.

Sir Charles Herbert to Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 5.)

(No. 12.)

(Telegraphic.)

Madrid, June 5, 1888.

MESSENGER says tonight. He brings my despatch on the present aspect of the Morocco Conference question.

No. 86

Consul White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 6.)

(No. 7 Consular.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 17, 1888.

ON the 2nd March, at the request of Her Majesty's Minister, I transmitted to him a Memorandum I had prepared on the case of the boy Guillermo de Celis, alias Rafael Atlas, who was taken from the house of the British subject, the widow Atlas—a case which has excited a great deal of interest and some ill-feeling amongst the mixed population of Tangier, and regarding which grossly-exaggerated accounts have been published in the press of Gibraltar, Spain, and even of England.

A copy of this Memorandum was communicated to your Lordship in Sir W. Kirby Green's despatch No. 25 of the 2nd March.

I regret to have to trouble your Lordship further on this subject; but I consider

that there has been such a palpable miscarriage of justice in this case, and, after a lengthy correspondence and several personal interviews with the Spanish Consul, being convinced that nothing further can be done here, I am reluctantly compelled to refer the whole matter to your Lordship, in the hope that some result may possibly be obtained by representations at Madrid.

I am the more constrained to take this course by the fact that it is not merely the interests of the widow Atlas which suffer, but indirectly those also of British subjects in general, for the experience gained in this case has taught them a lesson which they have taken to heart.

There is at Tangier a very large and rapidly-increasing Spanish Colony; the British Colony is only second to it, and is also increasing every year. Under these circumstances, as might be expected, questions and disputes constantly occur between British subjects and Spaniards which have to be referred to the respective Consulates.

For some years past British subjects have complained that they have experienced great difficulty in obtaining a settlement of their questions through the Spanish Consulate, now, however, with the fate of Amel Atlas before them, British subjects are little inclined to submit to the jurisdiction of the Spanish Consulate.

The Spanish Consul, on the other hand, makes it a grievance against this Consulate that the formal submission of foreigners and deposit of security is required in accordance with the terms of the Order in Council of 1875.

This rule, however, is the only safeguard British subjects have against frivolous or vexatious claims being constantly brought against them by foreigners without their being able to recover the expenses they may consequently be put to.

The boy Guillermo has now been taken to Spain by Catalina de Celis, who, I consider, is undoubtedly his mother, though no sufficient proof of that fact had been produced before me to have justified me to order his delivery to her before his abduction. He is now living with her, and, as it is said, is well treated, in the hope of winning his affections and gaining him over to her side, in case any further inquiry is made.

In forwarding the further Memorandum and copies of correspondence, which I have the honour to transmit herewith, I may perhaps be permitted to make some observations on the conduct of M. Lozano throughout this case.

In the following remarks I speak only from hearsay, but the reports appear to be so general that I cannot but believe them to be well-founded, though, of course, it would be difficult, and perhaps impossible, to prove them.

I am informed that M. Lozano himself suggested the abduction of the boy, and his letter to me, written at the time the abduction was taking place, appears to corroborate this supposition, for in it he warns me that, by declining to hear claims without requiring the previous deposit, "we should be rendering ourselves liable to persons taking the law into their own hands."

If this report is correct, it was not to be expected that M. Lozano would punish people for having followed his advice.

It is further stated that M. Lozano, after the boy's abduction, tried by every means in his power to excite public opinion in favour of the accused, causing sensational accounts of the case to be published in the Spanish papers, and endeavouring to induce the editors of local papers to publish his version of the case. The editor of the "Al-Moghreb-al-Akbar," who was a friend of his, and for whom he had previously obtained the appointment of Tangier correspondent of some Madrid papers, published an account of the affair which did not meet with M. Lozano's approval; he consequently threatened that he would cause the correspondence of those Madrid papers to be placed in other hands, and that he would also have the printing for the Spanish Chamber of Commerce done elsewhere, instead of by him, as formerly.

M. Lozano procured a vote of confidence to be passed by the Spanish Chamber of Commerce, of which he is President, and has lately had a document circulated amongst Spaniards for their signature expressing approval of his action. It is needless to point out that M. Lozano, having large powers over Spaniards here, it is not very difficult for him to obtain signatures amongst the numerous colony of poor Spaniards, but I am assured that numbers of the more respectable Spaniards declined to sign.

Five hundred copies of his lengthy Judgment, prepared with an introductory account of the case, have been printed off at one of the Tangier presses, ostensibly at the cost of the accused and it is also to be published in the journal of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce.

As much publicity as possible is thus being given to this document, which

contains serious reflections and insinuations regarding the British Consulate and its Representative at the trial and concludes with the following words:—"Let an account be given to his Excellency the Minister of State, for the fitting ends, of the irregular manner, countenanced by the English Consulate, in which Gimol Attias abandoned the trial, and thereby withdrew from Spanish jurisdiction, without awaiting the conclusion of the proceedings."

I have, &c
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 86.

Memorandum.

THE Spanish Consul M. Lozano, having written to me on the 2nd March* that the charges against the three Spanish subjects would be heard on the 6th of that month, but that by proof legally acquired by him it was shown that these charges were false, I communicated the letter to Gimol Attias, who replied on the 5th that it appeared to her a strange and irregular proceeding on the part of a judge to pronounce an opinion as to the merits of a case he was about to hear, but that as she was unable to consult any one versed in Spanish legal procedure, there being no Spanish lawyers at Pangoa, she would attend the Spanish Consular Court at the appointed time, reserving to herself the right of subsequently appearing against any irregularity in the proceedings. She added, moreover, that she submitted no restriction to the Spanish Court, except the charges she had brought against the three Spaniards.

A copy of this letter was duly transmitted by me to the Spanish Consul.

On the 6th March Gimol Attias accordingly appeared at the Spanish Consular Court, accompanied by M. Abraham Pimienta, acting as her attorney; Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu also attended to watch the case on behalf of this Consulate.

As appears from the accompanying Memorandum, drawn up at the time by Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, the Spanish Consul commenced the proceedings by stating that they were there to consider two cases, one brought by Antonia de Celis against Gimol Attias, and the other by Gimol Attias against the three Spaniards, and he proceeded to recount to a crowded court his version of the history of the case, drawing a highly-coloured and sensational picture of a poor Spanish girl deceived and seduced by a Jew under promises of marriage and then deserted, of her striving honourably to support the child, but finally being forced by illness and poverty to surrender it to the relatives of her seducer; of her subsequent endeavours to recover her child, and of her appeal in vain for justice to the British Consulate. In fact, M. Lozano appears to have made just such a speech as the counsel for the defence might have been expected to address to a jury with a view to enlisting their sympathy on behalf of his client.

Mr. de Vismes repeatedly reminded M. Lozano that all the history he was recounting was irrelevant to the present inquiry, and he objected to the introduction of such matter.

The plaintiff had especially required that the present trial should not be allowed to be the means of a decision being given as to the right of custody of the boy. M. Lozano's evident intention was to examine into the whole case and give a judgment on the point which was originally referred to the British Consular Court, thus allowing the Spaniards by their violent action to obtain the change of venue they desired.

Finding that M. Lozano paid no attention to his remonstrances, and was treating Gimol Attias as if she was the accused instead of the prosecutor, and, moreover, being of opinion that he ought not quietly to submit to the overbearing and discourteous treatment he was experiencing in open court at the hands of M. Lozano, Mr. de Vismes adopted the course of leaving the Court, and reporting to me what had occurred.

Gimol Attias and M. Pimienta also withdrew at the same time, and addressed me a letter requesting me to obtain the restitution of the 100 dollars paid in deposit.

On my subsequently communicating to them the correspondence which passed later between M. Lozano and myself, they decided to continue the case, drawing up, however, an amended document of submission instead of that prepared on the 29th February, which had not yet been filed at the Spanish Consulate, as M. Lozano had omitted to call for it.

I am credibly informed that on Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, Gimol Attias, and M. Pimienta leaving the Court, M. Lozano requested the public present to sign a

declaration which he had dictated to the Vice-Consul, stating that his conduct of the case had been impartial and proper, and that Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu had interrupted him in an unjustifiable manner. Many of those present, however, refused to sign the document, as not being in accordance with facts, and left the room, some even of those remaining Spanish subjects under M. Lozano's jurisdiction, declined to sign unless the document were modified.

M. Lozano then addressed me a letter complaining of the conduct of Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, and giving notice that the hearing would be continued on the following day.

I replied on the same day, supporting Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu's action, and pointing out that the complainant did not wish to proceed with the case without an assurance that the Court would confine itself to the matter of the complaint, and I requested, that if this assurance could not be given, the deposit money should be returned.

M. Lozano replied, in a letter delivered at 10 o'clock that night, that the object of his Court had in effect been to deal with the charges brought by Gimol Attias, although allusion had "incidentally, and as a point necessary for throwing light on the case," been made to the claim that Catalina de Celis had presented at the British Consulate.

Not considering M. Lozano's reply satisfactory, I addressed him a further letter the following morning, having previously sent my clerk to inform him that the complainant would not appear. In this letter I stated that the Court had not "as was prepared to attend the Court and prosecute the charges against the three Spaniards on receipt of a formal assurance that the Court will not directly or indirectly turn to any other question than those submitted to it, viz., violation of her person, assault on her, and forcible abduction of a boy from her house, and that no evidence will be taken bearing on the matter that formed the subject of Catalina de Celis' claim against her in this Consulate, and that, in the event of the charges being substantiated, the boy will be restored to her, pending a decision on the subject in this Consulate."

The Spanish Consul merely replied that the object of his Court was to attend to the charges made by Gimol Attias against the three Spanish subjects.

Finding that M. Lozano seemed determined not to give any definite answer, I called on him in the hope that we should be able to arrive at a satisfactory record.

The result of a long conversation was that M. Lozano declined to promise to make no inquiry as to the parentage of the boy, but agreed that it was only necessary to do so after, and if the charges were proved, when the fact of its having been a mother taking her son would be regarded in the light of an extenuating circumstance. I observed that the question of the parentage of the boy was not of much importance, for, if she was lawfully entitled to him, it was open to her to have obtained the custody of him in a lawful manner by prosecuting the claim presented in the British Consulate. The question of the deposit could not have stopped her, for if her cause was so clearly a just one she could count on her money being restored to her intact, and she could have raised 100 dollars as easily as Gimol Attias had done, being no poorer than Gimol is. I also urged that in cases of this nature it would be very dangerous to argue that the ends justified the means. However, I could obtain no further concession from M. Lozano than that the evidence objected to would not be admitted till after a decision on the facts had been given against the accused.

On my inquiring of M. Lozano whether, in the event of the charge being proved, he would order the restoration of the boy to Gimol Attias pending the decision on Catalina de Celis' claim in my Court, he replied "C'est très probable;" but on being pressed, declined to give a more definite answer, adding that he was in a very delicate position, and that it would be a serious matter for him to order a mother to give up her son even temporarily.

I may here mention that M. Lozano had before on one or two occasions distinctly told people that under no circumstances would he order the restoration of the boy to Gimol Attias.

It was with the view to insure that there should be no mistake as to the conditions on which the case was submitted to the Spanish Consular Court that the form of the document of submission was modified, so as to contain the clause that the complainant submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court solely on the conditions set forth in my letters to M. Lozano, and with the right of appeal to the Superior Court or to Government, and I also addressed a further letter to the Spanish Consul, stating that Gimol Attias would attend the Court "on the understanding arrived at, viz., that during the

* Inclosure II in Memorandum forwarded to Foreign Office in Sir W. E. Green's No. 25 of March 2, 1859.

course of the trial the Court would confine itself to receiving only such evidence as would tend to prove or disprove the facts in issue, i.e., whether or not the violation of domicile, the assault, or the forcible abduction were committed, and that, at any rate until the decision should have been given on those points, the question of extenuating circumstances, such as who the boy was, would not be raised."

This letter was delivered to M. Lozano before the opening of the case on the 8th, when Gimol Attias also filed the document of submission. After receiving these two documents M. Lozano proceeded with the case without making any comment on them, thus apparently accepting the conditions laid down.

The case proceeded through several days, M. Lozano assuming, as before, the office of counsel for the defence, severely cross-examining the witnesses for the prosecution, and attempting to browbeat them by inquiring whether they knew what was the punishment for perjury.

The evidence was thus taken of the witnesses for the prosecution, it was not, however, taken down *verbatim*, but summarized by M. Lozano.

The accused and their witnesses had made depositions at the Spanish Consulate on the 24th February, without notice being given to the prosecution.

These depositions were now read to them in open Court, and they were asked whether they ratified them. After which some questions were put to them by the President, and by Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu within certain limits; when, however, the latter was proceeding to cross-examine them further, he was stopped by the President, who informed him that it was not the proper time. M. Pimental, the prosecutor's attorney, was not allowed to put any questions at all.

I should mention also that, though the original evidence given by the witnesses on the 24th February was stated to have been taken on oath, no oath was administered to them in Court.

Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu objected to the former statements of the accused and their witnesses being read to them, wishing to examine them in Court before their memory had been thus refreshed. This objection was, however, overruled by the President. The boy himself, Guillermo de Celis, had given evidence before the hearing of the case in the same manner, but no oath was administered to him, and he was warned that he need say nothing to harm Catalina de Celis and husband, they were present whilst he was giving his evidence, and he was living with them, and in their power at the time. I need hardly point out that under these circumstances it could not have been expected that he would say anything unfavourable to them, for which he might be made to smart on his return to their home.

When he was produced in Court Catalina de Celis and her husband were again present, notwithstanding Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu's objection, and his former statement was read to him and "ratified."

Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu objected to the examination of the witnesses for the defence by a series of leading questions, virtually consisting of a repetition of the evidence of the other witnesses for their corroboration. The evidence thus given being summarized in narrative form in the Minutes, and appearing to be their own unprompted account of the occurrence.

Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu also abstained from appending his signature to the Minutes, as he did not consider M. Lozano's summaries of the evidence gave an exact idea of what had passed. At the invitation of M. Lozano, he subsequently addressed him a letter explaining his objections.

At the next sitting of the Court this letter was read aloud, as also a "Providencia," or Interlocutory Decree of the Court thereon, in which the Court called Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu to order.

Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu complained to me afterwards that M. Lozano had behaved rudely to him in Court, addressing him in a very peremptory manner, and making a speech, apparently to the spectators, reflecting on his conduct, and saying that he had dared ("atrevido") to say that leading questions had been put to the witnesses.

Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu further reported to me that the conditions made by the prosecutor had been disregarded, notwithstanding his protests, and that he was convinced he was right in the opinion he had expressed at the commencement of the case, that M. Lozano had determined beforehand to acquit the accused, and inflict some punishment on Gimol Attias.

I inclose herewith copy of the letter I addressed to M. Lozano on the 10th March in consequence of the report made to me by Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu.

The Spanish Consul replied on the following day that Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu

was not very well acquainted with the Spanish language and with Spanish legal procedure, and that it was on that account that all the misunderstanding had arisen. He added that the discourtesy had really been on the part of Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, who had addressed to the Court and to the witnesses observations couched in offensive language, calculated to excite the passions of the audience.

With regard to the prosecutor's condition of submission, M. Lozano states that, in his letters preceding mine of the 8th March, he had stated that it was necessary to enter into the matter objected to.

I replied to the Spanish Consul on the same day that Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu had spoken in Spanish at his (M. Lozano's) own wish, and on his assurance that he spoke that language sufficiently well. I requested M. Lozano to specify the observations made by Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu which he considered objectionable, and I asked for a copy of the "Providencia" in which Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu had been called to order. I added that the fact of his having proceeded with the case after receipt of my letter of the 8th March, and of the prosecutor's submission, without making any observation on it, argued his acceptance of the condition contained in it.

On the 21st March M. Lozano addressed me a letter in which he cites the observations made by Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu of which he had complained, and for which he had called him to order; he also transmitted a copy of the "Providencia" calling Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu to order. M. Lozano proceeds to state that his Court was justified in taking the evidence objected to, and concludes by giving me notice that the case will be proceeded with on the following day whether the complainant and Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu appear or not.

I communicated this letter to Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, who drew up a Memorandum explaining his observations, and showing that there was nothing in them that could be considered offensive to M. Lozano or disrespectful to the Spanish Consular Court.

Gimol Attias, to whom I also communicated M. Lozano's letter, addressed me a letter protesting against the proceedings of that Court, declining to attend further, and requesting restitution of the deposit.

I at once wrote to M. Lozano, inclosing copies of these documents, and stating that Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu regretted that he (M. Lozano) should have understood his observations as being in any way disrespectful towards himself. I added, however, that I considered Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu was justified in considering that a slight had been put upon him, and through him upon the British Consulate, by thus formally calling him to order in open Court.

I also informed him that the reply he referred to as having been given to my letter of the 8th March had never been received.

The Spanish Consul replied on the following day that, had Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu stated at the time that he did not accuse the President of the Tribunal of partiality, this incident would have been closed at once; but as the "hard terms" of the protest were known in open Court, those of the "Providencia" of the Tribunal had to be equally known. M. Lozano then states that the reply he had referred to as having been given to my letter of the 8th March was contained in his letters addressed to me before that date.

He proceeds to argue that the Court was entitled to take the evidence objected to, and adds, that the complainant's Petition for the restitution of her money would be answered at the end of the case.

In my letter of the 28th March I reminded M. Lozano that, in his written protest, Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu did state that he imputed no partiality to the President of the Court.

I added, that I could not find even in any of his preceding letters a definite statement that the Court would not accept the condition mentioned in my letter of the 8th March; and that, even had the preceding letters contained such a statement, the fact of his proceeding with the case, after receipt of my letter of the 8th March, and of the submission without making any observations thereon, could only be interpreted as an acceptance of the condition.

The Minutes of the proceedings were then, it appears, handed by M. Lozano to a Spanish lawyer (who suddenly appeared at Tangier, and as suddenly disappeared a day or two afterwards), whom M. Lozano had named "Fiscal" in office in some way analogous to that of an assessor. The Fiscal read through the "autos," or written proceedings, and pronounced a lengthy verdict.

As I have already observed, the evidence was not taken down *verbatim*, but merely summarized by M. Lozano at its conclusion, and then some further questions

and answers taken down. The Fiscal, therefore, not having been present in Court during the proceedings, was not very well qualified to form an opinion upon the case merely by a perusal of the "autos."

On the 26th March, M. Lozano addressed me a letter transmitting a copy of a "Providencia," stating that the Fiscal had pronounced his "Dictamen" or verdict, which could be seen at the Court.

M. Lozano warned me that any reply to this Dictamen must be delivered in writing within three days, and that Sundays and feast-days were included in the three days. This last remark was made as the next two days were Jewish feasts, which are strictly kept here, no work being done on them.

I replied, on the 28th March, that I had communicated the Providencia to the complainant, who confirmed her letter of the 22nd; and on the following day I received a letter from Gimol Attias, copy of which I forwarded to the Spanish Consul. This letter repeats the arguments contained in her former letter.

On the 31st March M. Lozano wrote to inform me that the replies to my letter of the 8th March are contained in his letters of the 2nd,* 4th,† and 21st March. The two former preceded the letter they are said to answer, and, moreover, do not contain any definite statement that the evidence subsequently objected to would be taken, whilst the letter of the 21st March was written after the withdrawal of Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu and the complainant in consequence of the breach of the conditions.

On the 11th April the Spanish Consul addressed me a further letter, enclosing copy of his Judgment, and drawing attention to the eighth "considerando" convicting the complainant of perjury, and adding that it would be proper that the British Consulate should state whether it was disposed to punish her.

The Judgment professes to recapitulate the whole case and the correspondence thereon, but I cannot refrain from saying that it leaves a very false impression of the case; the inaccuracies and omissions in summarizing my letters sometimes amounting to a complete misrepresentation of their contents.

In this Judgment the Spanish Consular Court dismisses the case as against the three Spanish subjects, and condemns the complainant to pay them 80 dollars as compensation; the remaining 20 dollars of the deposit money being appropriated for fees of experts, &c. Catalina de Cels and her husband are pronounced to be the lawful guardians of the boy, who, it is decreed, must remain under their control.

The complainant is convicted of perjury, and strictures are laid upon the British Consulate and its representative at the trial, it finally being ordered that a Report be made to the Secretary of State regarding the irregular proceedings of the British Consulate and the complainant.

Copies of this Judgment were delivered to the accused, and were subsequently printed and published.

I communicated this extraordinary document to Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, and requested him to furnish me with his observations thereon. It was, however, some days before I could communicate it to Gimol Attias, as her attorney was ill and unable to attend to business.

In the meantime, at the request of M. Lozano, I addressed him a letter on the 16th acknowledging receipt of copy of Judgment, and stating that I would reply thereto.

On the 19th I received a letter from the Spanish Consul, inclosing an "Auto" or Decree of the Court, dated the 17th April, making the Judgment absolute.

Having in the meantime been able to communicate the Judgment to the complainant's attorney, she addressed me on the 20th April a letter containing her observations thereon, which her attorney requested me to annex to any Report of the case I might make to your Lordship, adding that he considered it useless to take any further action in the matter here, and therefore refrained from sending me any letter for communication to M. Lozano.

In this letter, Gimol Attias remarks that the weight of the evidence was in her favour, that she has no relations with her witnesses, whereas the defendant's witnesses had been more or less implicated in the affair; that none of these latter witnesses, except the accused, were eye-witnesses of the acts complained of; that the boy's evidence was forced from him, and that his cross-examination was not allowed; that none of the evidence was taken down *verbatim*, but merely summarized by the President; that the President had prejudged the case, and on one occasion exclaimed

* Inclosure II to Memorandum to Sir W. K. Green's No. 23.

† Not having received any letter dated the 4th March, I sent clerk to inquire for it at Spanish Consulate. A reference was then made to the archives, and no letter of that date could be found.

in open Court during the hearing of the case that the person principally incriminated "deserved a crown of glory" for his action; that the President on several occasions, both before and during the trial, remarked to different persons that people were much mistaken if they imagined that he was going to punish the accused; and that, independently of the above points, the fact of the Court having broken the conditions attached to her submission, rendered all the proceedings null and void.

She further incloses copies of the sworn declarations of some of her witnesses.

In consequence of the observations of Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu and of the complainant, I thought it advisable, before replying to M. Lozano, to study the Minutes of the evidence as taken down by the Court. Therefore, I called at the Spanish Consulate, and, with the permission of M. Lozano, I carefully read through the whole written proceedings, which formed a very bulky document, and necessitated repeated visits to the Spanish Consulate.

Having a press of other work, it was some time before I could prepare my reply. On the 10th instant, however, I addressed him a letter, in which I replied categorically on the paragraphs of his Judgment, pointing out the inaccuracies and omissions, and informing him that, after a careful study of the whole case, I had formed an opinion totally opposed to his. I again repeated that I considered the complainant's objection to the proceedings well founded, as they had broken the condition on which alone she submitted.

I also inclosed copies of letters showing that Catalina de Cels had requested the father to take the boy, and that her brother had reported her bad conduct, and advised him to remove him.

On the 5th May the Spanish Consul addressed me a letter, drawing my attention to the publication in the "Times of Morocco" of a letter stated to have been addressed by Sir T. A. Lester to Sir John Simon, and after stating that, if Sir William Kirby Green had proposed to send the boy to Gibraltar, "it would have been equivalent to authorizing the Jews, by force or astuteness, to supplant the perfect right of the Spanish mother over her child," and he added that it would then be proper that the British Consulate should publish a denial of the statement and in a form of the manner and place of publication.

M. Lozano further inquired whether I thought it right and proper that the British Consulate should permit newspapers published by British subjects to criticize a case on which a Judgment had been given.

The complaint contained in the last paragraph of M. Lozano's letter was occasioned by the fact that the four local papers made unfavourable comments on the manner in which this trial was conducted.

I informed M. Lozano, in reply, that it was not for me to interfere in any way into the action Her Majesty's Minister may have taken in this matter; and I suggested that any question on that subject would come more properly from the Spanish Minister to Sir William Kirby Green.

With regard to the criticisms contained in the newspapers, I observed that a certain latitude is permitted by British law in the comments of the press on cases no longer *sub judice*.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Tangier, May 17, 1886.

No. 87

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 6)

(No. 70.)
My Lord,

Tangier, May 28, 1886.

HADJ MOHAMED TORRES, when I saw him this morning, informed me that there was no truth in the reported assassination of the Shercof Cid Abd-el-Jarek Marani, a belief which I had the honour of expressing to your Lordship in my despatch No. 67 of the 23rd instant.

The Moorish Commissioner for Foreign Affairs states that the insurgent Shercof is of the Ahwein, and not of the Drissain, branch of Shercofs. He is therefore cousin to the Sultan, and is said to exercise great influence among the Berber tribes. I gather from Hadj Mohamed Torres that Mulai Hassan will only make a pretence of attacking the mountaineers, provided they themselves do not seek an encounter, and that then His Majesty will commence his march towards Larache and Tangier. The

Commissioner, however, does not think the Sultan is at all likely to be here for another two months.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN

No. 88

Sir W. K. Green to The Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 6.)

(No. 71. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 30, 1888

HAVING understood, through a telegram received by me yesterday from Sir Clare Ford, that it was not as yet opportune that the Moorish Delegate to the Conference should arrive at Madrid, I this morning called on Señor Diosdado and asked if he could tell me what arrangements he had made with Hadj Mohammed Torres.

My Spanish colleague replied that he himself was starting for Seville this evening on private business, but could not say that he would not be summoned to Madrid by Señor Moret. As for Hadj Mohammed Torres, he had been requested to hold himself in readiness to start at the shortest notice for the Spanish capital.

Señor Diosdado added to me that he had ascertained the nature of the Moorish Delegate's instructions, and that he considered they were satisfactory, as they did not close the door to a discussion of judicial and commercial reforms, which he understood was all that had been stipulated for by Her Majesty's Government, that is to say, that the principle of judicial and commercial reforms should be accepted by the Sultan's Representative.

I did not deem it needful to discuss this subject with Señor Diosdado, but called immediately on Hadj Mohammed Torres to request his Excellency to recapitulate to me the information he had conveyed to me the day before yesterday (see No. 69, Confidential, of the 28th instant) as to the course he would pursue at the Madrid Conference. I therefore can here repeat to your Lordship that the Moorish Delegate has no other authority but to demand at the Conference the entire and radical suppression of foreign protection of natives. Should that be accorded, Hadj Mohammed Torres would be prepared to declare at the Conference that the Sultan, after he had realized the fact that he was complete master in his own dominions, would take into consideration the questions of commercial and judicial reforms. Hadj Mohammed Torres said that he had no power whatever to accept any engagements on behalf of the Sultan. He could only acknowledge in His Majesty's name the withdrawal by the Powers of the privileges of protecting natives in Morocco.

His Excellency rectified the statement which he had made to me with regard to the letters which he was conveying to the Ambassadors at Madrid of Great Britain, Italy, France, and Germany. He said he had not yet received these Shercoffian letters, but that he expected to receive them, and that he was not certain whether there would be one for the French Ambassador or for the Spanish Minister of State.

I, however, believe that the first statement made to me by Hadj Mohammed Torres was correct, and that he had since, after seeing Signor Cantagalli, thought it better to leave my Italian colleague and myself in uncertainty on this point. His Excellency, nevertheless, went so far as to say that he did not understand the letters in question were connected in any way with the matter of securing the territorial integrity of Morocco.

Perhaps your Lordship will allow me to repeat here that I do not consider much value need be attached to the Moorish Delegate's instructions or proceedings, provided an understanding on the future welfare of Morocco is arrived at between the interested Powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

P.S.—I have omitted to state that Hadj Mohammed Torres said to me that not only he but that also the Sultan would be delighted if the Conference did not take place.

W. K. G.

No. 89.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 6.)

(No. 6.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tangier, June 5, 1888, 4.30 p.m.

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 9.

From inquiries made this morning, and since confirmed by the Moorish Minister, I learn that the interpreter of the German Legation, when up at the Court a few weeks ago, made known to the Sultan the wish of the Turkish Government to be diplomatically represented here, but His Majesty rejected the overtures.

I have never offered any counsels whatever to the Moorish Government on this subject, but my views thereupon are clearly stated in my despatch No. 7 of the 21st January, 1887.

No. 90.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 55.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 6, 1888.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information the accompanying copy of a communication from Sir H. Verney, M.P.,* in regard to the rumoured construction of a fortress nearly opposite Tarifa; and I have to request you to furnish me with a Report upon the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 91

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 7.)

(No. 7.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tangier, June 6, 1888, 5.3 p.m.

AFTER careful perusal of prints sent in your despatch No. 55 of the 30th ultimo,† and especially of Sir F. Ford's telegrams to your Lordship Nos. 8 and 9 of the 29th ultimo, I cannot refrain from expressing the opinion that it would be safer that the wishes of Her Majesty's Government regarding the terms upon which Great Britain can partake in the Conference should be communicated by me to the Moorish Government. I have yet to learn that less confidence is placed by the Sultan in communications reaching him from me than from any other quarter. If the Spanish Government is to be our sole channel of communication with the Sultan on such delicate matters, we may hereafter find out that our objects have been misunderstood by His Majesty, if not misrepresented.

No. 92.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received by telegraph, June 7.)

(No. 76. Ext. 7.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 6, 1888.

I HAVE this day had the honour to telegraph to your Lordship in substance as follows.—

I have received your Lordship's despatch No. 55 of the 30th ultimo; a perusal of the prints enclosed, and particularly of Sir Clare Ford's telegrams Nos. 8 and 9 to your Lordship, has convinced me that it would be desirable that I also should be empowered to communicate directly to the Moorish Government the terms upon which Her Majesty's Government are prepared to enter the Conference.

I am not inclined to admit that His Shercoffian Majesty is less ready to place confidence in my communications than in those reaching him from other sources. I would also venture to express to your Lordship my apprehension that if we should continue to rely solely on the Spanish Government as the channel of our communi-

* No. 75.

† Not printed.

cations with the Sultan, we may hereafter discover that His Shereefian Majesty is under a misapprehension as to the motives which actuate Her Majesty's Government through possible misrepresentations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 93.

Sir Clara Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 8.)

(No. 74. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 4, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that since my arrival in this city from Barcelona on the 23rd ultimo the question of the meeting of the proposed Conference on Moorish Affairs has assumed a somewhat acute form.

At my first interview with Señor Moret, the Spanish Minister of State, on the 24th ultimo, after my return, his Excellency appeared to me to have abandoned all hope of the Conference meeting. He informed me that from reports which had reached him, M. Féraud, the French Minister at Tangier, was intriguing with the Moorish Ministers with the object of frustrating its assembling, and his Excellency appeared to entertain such apprehension of these tactics on the part of the French that he said the best thing to do was to "sound the note of alarm," for he feared that the French were aiming at a rectification of their Algerian frontier, which they trusted to acquire in exchange for an engagement of giving their support to Morocco in combatting the demands which might be made on the Moorish Government by other foreign Governments.

I have no means of judging what amount of truth is to be attached to this rumour, which no doubt proceeds from Señor Diosdado, the Spanish Minister at Tangier; but the importance apparently attached to it by Señor Moret may account in some measure for the anxiety he displays to hurry on a meeting of the Conference without further loss of time. I know he entertains an idea that I am "playing France's game" in raising objections to what appears to me his present imprudent action with regard to an immediate convening of the Conference, whereas I am only carrying out, and I have told his Excellency so, your Lordship's instructions, which have been so clearly defined to me, concerning the requirements of Her Majesty's Government, before any invitation to meet in Conference can be definitively accepted.

But to proceed with a narrative of the events of the last few days. On the 28th ultimo I read in the morning Spanish newspapers the announcement of the arrival at Tangier from the Sultan of Morocco's Court of Cid Mohammed Torres, Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Delegate-elect to the proposed Conference. On the same day a telegram couched as follows reached me from Sir Kirby Green, Her Majesty's Minister in Tangier:—

"Moorish Delegate has arrived from Court, and expects to receive an intimation to proceed to Madrid in a day or two. He will be accompanied only by the interpreter of the Spanish Legation and the Franciscan monk. Therefore, if you wish my assistant to join you, please ask the Foreign Office to instruct me to send him."

I wrote the same day, 28th May, a private note to Señor Moret, in which I expressed the hope that Cid Mohammed Torres did not contemplate making a precipitate journey to Madrid, as, in my opinion, his presence might cause embarrassment, as there could be no question of the Conference meeting until matters had been previously explained to, and thoroughly understood by the Sultan of Morocco, as to our (the British) requirements previous to the meeting of that Assembly.

In the course of the day (28th May) I had an interview with Señor Moret, and what passed at it formed the subject of my telegram No. 8, which I had the honour to address to your Lordship on that day. The purport of the telegram was briefly as follows: that Señor Moret denied the truth of the report that Cid Mohammed Torres was preparing to proceed at once to Madrid. He would not do so, said Señor Moret, without a previous arrangement with him. Señor Moret likewise stated that a copy of his paper had been received by Torres at Mequinez, and that he presumed it had been submitted to the Sultan. Señor Moret said that the question of the proposed suspensory clause had not been alluded to.

Now this was the first occasion on which misgivings had entered my mind as to the manner in which the Conference question was being conducted between the Spanish and Moorish Governments, for I had distinctly in view the terms of Sir Kirby Green's despatch No. 58,* addressed to your Lordship on the 3rd May, in which he recounted a conversation he had held with Señor Diosdado, the Spanish Minister at Tangier, who had told him in plain language that he had not thought it expedient to make Señor Moret's notes known to the Moorish Government.

However, be that as it may, I warned Señor Moret not to act with precipitancy, whereupon he rejoined that he did not propose doing so, that complete reliance could be reposed in him.

On the 29th ultimo I had another interview with Señor Moret, the result of which was telegraphed by me to your Lordship on the evening of that day in my telegram No. 9.

In this telegram I informed your Lordship that Señor Moret had assured me that Señor Diosdado had telegraphed to him that day to say that Torres "fully agreed" to his (Señor Moret's) programme as sketched in his (Señor Moret's) paper, copy of which was transmitted by me to your Lordship in my despatch No. 56 of the 11th May.

I likewise informed your Lordship that Señor Moret had stated to me that he had telegraphed to Señor Diosdado to submit to Torres the requirements of Her Majesty's Government, which were contained in your Lordship's telegram No. 7 of the 18th May, and that he was awaiting Torres' reply, the question of the suspensory clause, however, not being mentioned.

This reply of Torres appears to have reached Señor Moret through the Spanish Minister at Tangier on the 30th ultimo, for in the course of that day I received a short note from his Excellency to the following effect:—

"Diosdado wires he has fulfilled my views, and has presented to Torres the telegram of Lord Salisbury. Torres is all right, and wants the Conference to be summoned as soon as possible."

I received the same day a further telegram from Sir Kirby Green, which was worded as follows:—

"My Spanish colleague leaves to-night for Seville, and possibly for Madrid. He considers Moorish Delegate has sufficient powers. Latter, however, tells me that he is only empowered to demand abolition of protection, and discussion concerning commercial and judicial reforms 'academically,' that is, to decide nothing on these questions without Sultan's permission. He will proceed to Madrid immediately he receives a summons from Spanish Minister. I understood that Sultan and Delegate would both be enchanted if Conference were knocked on the head."

On receipt of this telegram I wrote again to Señor Moret, and informed him that it had come to my knowledge that Torres' utterances to Señor Diosdado did not coincide with what Torres had said to Sir Kirby Green; and that in my opinion the exercise of caution in the future conduct of the Conference question was necessary, and I frankly informed him what Sir Kirby Green had heard from Torres, although I did not mention, from a dislike of wounding Señor Moret's feelings, that both the Sultan and the Delegate appeared to entertain a holy horror of the devil they or Señor Moret had raised—the Conference! Señor Moret, in replying to my letter, stated that "Torres' answers to Sir Kirby Green were quite inconsistent with his (Torres') official answer to him (Moret)," and his Excellency added that "If M. Féraud or any other Minister were to call on Torres, he would still receive a very different impression." Señor Moret further made a rather remarkable admission, to the effect that he had at that very moment "three different versions of Torres' mind!"

Señor Moret also said that I could not accept what Sir Kirby Green said as a contradiction to his (Moret's) own statements.

Señor Moret defined the situation as follows: "Torres" (said his Excellency) "knows very well, quite well, the programme of the Conference; he says he comes with full powers to sign the Agreement I propose, with the additional conditions. Then he will do so or not. If he does, we will also sign. If he does not sign, we will not sign. If his pledges and guarantees are not sufficient, we shall make our consent conditional on the fulfilment of their engagement." Consequently, Señor Moret asserts that in his mind everything is clear, and he wound up with the following statement, that "the Sultan of Morocco had proposed the new Conference—that we had accepted it on certain conditions. The Sultan subscribed to such conditions. Now we must proceed to the Conference, and put things on paper. If the Sultan fails

* Vide No. 51

to fulfil his engagements no Agreement would be passed and signed, and if we sign we could still take the guarantees of a suspensory clause. That is all, and that is clear. To recede is to retire from our own engagements."

Now it will strike your Lordship as it did me, that Señor Moret, in asserting that "the Sultan subscribed to our conditions," is hardly describing the situation with accuracy, for, so far as I am aware, we are not in possession of a single scrap of evidence, official or otherwise, to lead us to form an impression that the Sultan of Morocco is in possession of any knowledge (except the one idea that he would like to get rid of the Protection system *in toto*) of what our aims and objects are in consenting to take part in a Conference on Moorish Affairs. Indeed, we have so high an authority as that of Sir Kirby Green informing us that Señor Diosdado, the Spanish Minister at Tangier, had told him that he was convinced that, had Señor Moret's paper or notes "reached the Shererifian Court, the probability would have been that the Moorish Delegate would not have been ready to proceed to Madrid this time next year, or any number of years hence."

To Señor Moret's letter I replied that the matter of the meeting of the Conference did not lie in my hands, and that as your Lordship was in possession of the facts which had recently occurred, I was awaiting your Lordship's instructions on the subject. I pointed out that as regarded my not listening to what Sir Kirby Green had to say on the subject was an impossibility, and that, in my opinion, were the Conference to meet whilst doubt still existed as to the views of His Shererifian Majesty on the subject, no real business whatever could be accomplished.

On the 31st ultimo I had the honour to address to your Lordship my telegram No. 11, in which I suggested that great caution should be exercised in agreeing to any proposal which Señor Moret might make to hasten on a meeting of the Conference, and I stated that Señor Moret appeared to place too implicit faith in Cal Mohammed Torres, and that for my part I should feel inclined to repose greater confidence in the reports received from Sir Kirby Green on this subject than on the statements furnished by Señor Diosdado to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

On the 1st instant Señor Moret wrote to me another letter, in which he expressed his fear that I was opposed to any meeting of the Conference, and he threw out a hint that he suspected I had suddenly changed my views with respect to it.

I had no difficulty in replying that his Excellency was mistaken if he seriously entertained such an idea, and I assured him that my conduct had been consistent throughout the whole course of the negotiations. I would not deny, however, that at the present juncture I thought that he and I were travelling on different roads, for I could not bring myself to believe that the present was an opportune moment to assemble the Conference. As to my having adopted a different position in the treatment of the matter, I had done nothing beyond carrying out to the best of my ability the instructions which I had received from time to time for my guidance from Her Majesty's Government, who had from the very commencement defined in a clear and explicit manner the conditions on which they would consent to join in the Conference, and which conditions might be briefly summarized by stating that they desired to see the Moorish Delegate come fully prepared with proper powers to meet all eventualities, and not to come to utter vague promises which might amount to nothing.

In order to fix Señor Moret's memory more closely on this important point, I drew up and enclosed to him in my letter a Memorandum, copy of which I beg to transmit herewith, showing the conditions on which Her Majesty's Government had agreed to being a party to the Conference.

We had been, I stated to Señor Moret, discussing off and on the matter of this Conference for the last eight months, and I could not see the necessity for now adopting a course of precipitancy. The one point, I added, which has been uppermost in my mind since my return from Barcelona, is to ascertain whether Her Majesty's Government can be officially informed that the Sultan of Morocco has been made acquainted with all and every condition on which alone Her Majesty's Government will consent to join the Conference, and also whether His Shererifian Majesty's Delegate has been or will be provided with the necessary full powers to meet "all eventualities." As regards the terms contained, I said, in your Lordship's telegram No. 7 of the 18th May, which came whilst I was away at Barcelona, it was materially impossible (for no means of telegraphic communication exist in Morocco) that the Sultan could know anything about the terms, as Torres only heard of them himself the other day from Diosdado.

I also pointed out to Señor Moret the following: that on his having raised

objections to me as to pressing the point of the suspensory clause, which Her Majesty's Government desire should be inserted in the Protocol, I had duly informed your Lordship of the circumstance; but I reminded his Excellency of the fact, that up to the present I had received no intimation from your Lordship which would authorize me to state that the point in question had been waived by Her Majesty's Government.

I further informed Señor Moret that I saw no reason why the meeting of the Conference should not be postponed. As far as the public is concerned, and they take but a very slight interest in the affair, no precise date of meeting has ever been mentioned, and the preparatory negotiations are supposed to be still going on.

I did not mean to say postpone it indefinitely, but do so at any rate until Her Majesty's Government can be officially informed, either by Señor Mazo or yourself, that the Sultan has notified his formal agreement to what the British Government require of him, and that his Delegate will be furnished with full powers to act accordingly, but in the event of Her Majesty's Government not being able to be so informed, it would be a proof positive that the Sultan of Morocco is not in earnest in the matter, and then, under that condition, I concluded that Her Majesty's Government would refuse to have anything to do with him, and the onus of the Conference not coming off would justly fall on the Moors.

No further correspondence has passed between Señor Moret and myself on this subject, and I am unable to inform your Lordship of what has passed between him and M. Cambon, the French Ambassador, who only returned to Madrid last Saturday, the 2nd instant, from Barcelona.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD

Inclosure in No. 93.

Memorandum of Conditions upon which Her Britannic Majesty's Government will consent to meet in Conference on Moorish Affairs.

THIS despatch reports an interview held at the Foreign Office in London between Señor Mazo, the Spanish Minister, and Lord Salisbury.

Señor Mazo proposed that England should accept generally ("tout bonnement") the invitation to the Conference. That before the meeting Señor Moret would inform the Sultan that none of his demands would be granted unless His Majesty at the same time granted what was asked of him, in order that his Plenipotentiary should be furnished with instructions and powers to meet all eventualities.

In reply to Sir Clare Ford's despatch, in which he had reported that Señor Moret was most anxious to learn exactly what were the views of Her Majesty's Government as to the subjects to be touched upon at the proposed Conference on Moorish Affairs, so as to avoid all misunderstandings on the subject Lord Salisbury states that Her Majesty's Government concur in the formula in which Señor Moret proposes that his letter of invitation to the Conference should be couched if his Excellency will before the meeting of the Conference make a statement to Sultan of Morocco as described in Señor Mazo's communication of the 25th October, 1887.

Lord Salisbury acknowledges receipt of copy of Señor Moret's paper on Moorish affairs.

Lord Salisbury reminds Sir C. Ford that the Sultan of Morocco was to be informed by Spain before the meeting of the Conference, that the modifications of the Protection Convention would be conditional on the Sultan of Morocco's giving security for the proper treatment of foreigners and on his granting concessions.

But according to Señor Mazo's proposal, he would, after the signing of the Protocol modifying the Madrid Convention, ask the Sultan to pledge himself to the concessions stated in the "14 clauses." If this course were followed, the modification of protection would not be conditional on the Sultan's concessions, and the course proposed would not necessarily raise the integrity question in the Conference.

Therefore, Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to sign a Protocol modifying the Madrid Convention of 1880, and to rely for counter-concessions on vague promises of commercial and judicial reform. Those reforms should be discussed and settled at the Conference, and embodied in the Protocol modifying the Convention of 1880. Her Majesty's Government consider that Señor Moret should inform the

To Sir Clare Ford, October 25, 1887

To Sir Clare Ford, April 15, 1888

To Sir Clare Ford, April 21, 1888.

Sultan before issuing the invitations that this course will be followed at the Conference, in order that the Moorish Delegates may be furnished with instructions accordingly.

The foregoing instructions were duly communicated by Sir Clare Ford to Señor Moret, and Sir Clare Ford informed Lord Salisbury that Señor Moret had raised objections to the possibility of the commercial and judicial questions being (as Lord Salisbury seemed to desire) settled at the Conference.

To Sir Clare
Ford May
8, 1888

Lord Salisbury informs Sir Clare Ford that Señor Moret does not apparently propose to embody in the Protocol the "Additional Declarations" attached to the paper prepared by his Excellency. Señor Moret contends that the details of commercial and judicial reforms in Morocco are too complicated to be discussed and settled in the Conference. But Her Majesty's Government require that the modification of the Convention of 1880 should be conditional on those reforms being carried out; whilst they will be satisfied if the principles of those reforms and not their details are discussed and settled with sufficient precision and embodied in the Protocol, and it is observed that the necessary precision is wanting in the "Additional Declarations."

In deference, therefore, to the wishes of the Spanish Government, Her Majesty's Government are prepared to accept the formula of invitation for the meeting of the Conference, provided that the Sultan of Morocco is informed that a suspensory clause in the Protocol will be insisted on, recording that the modifications of the Convention of 1880 are not to take effect until His Majesty has carried out to the satisfaction of the Powers the commercial and judicial reforms described in the "Additional Declaration."

Señor Moret is to be informed in this sense, and he is to be told that the "Additional Declarations" will consequently be discussed in the Conference and embodied in the Protocol.

No. 91

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 8.)

(No. 76. Confidential)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 8, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of a telegram which was sent to me last evening in cypher by Sir Kirby Green from Tangier.

I am rather at a loss to understand from what source the Italian Minister at Tangier derived his information that Señor Moret, the Spanish Minister of State, had promised to make known to the Sultan of Morocco the desire of Her Majesty's Government, that, in the event of the Conference on Moorish Affairs meeting, a suspensory clause would be insisted on, recording that the modifications of the Convention of 1880 are not to take effect until His Majesty has carried out, to the satisfaction of the Powers, the commercial and judicial reforms which it is contemplated demanding of him.

I have already had the honour to inform your Lordship that Señor Moret is of opinion that the question of a "suspensory clause" should not be pressed on the Moorish Government; but, as I have informed your Lordship in my despatch No. 74 of the 14th instant, I am as yet unable to state whether Her Majesty's Government will accede to Señor Moret's views on this subject, or whether they will insist upon the "suspensory clause" forming a part of the requirements of Her Majesty's Government in this Conference question.

I am not surprised to read the last paragraph but one of Sir Kirby Green's telegram. I cannot help thinking that the Sultan of Morocco's information on the subject of Señor Moret's proposed Conference must be very meagre, not to say elementary, and that up to the present he may be living in what is termed a fool's paradise, and imagine that if the Conference comes off it will result in the complete accomplishment of the Moorish views on the subject of protection. These views were very clearly set forth in Mohammed Garnet's note of the 17th August, 1887, addressed to the Spanish Minister at Tangier, and which note formed the inclosure in Señor Moret's Circular despatch to Spanish Representatives abroad, dated the 1st December, 1887.*

With regard to Sir Kirby Green's statement, that Padre Lerchundi left Tangier for Madrid on the 30th ultimo, I would beg to remind your Lordship that the Father

* Vide Spanish Red Book, pp. 72-73, inclosed in Sir C. Ford's No. 8 of January 22, 1888.

alluded to is a Franciscan monk who has lived for years in Morocco, and is devoted to Spanish interests in that country. He is the same person who accompanied Cid Mohammed Torres in his recent Mission to His Holiness the Pope at Rome, as reported to your Lordship in my despatch No. 21, Confidential, of the 16th February.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

Inclosure in No. 91.

Sir W. K. Green to Sir Clare Ford.

Tangier, June 4, 1888.

(Telegraphic.)

HAVING learnt from my Italian colleague that the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs had promised you to make known to the Sultan our insistence as to suspensory clause in the Protocol and obtain His Majesty's agreement to it, I this morning inquired of the Moorish Delegate whether he had heard anything on the subject. He denies having done so, but expressed the opinion that the Sultan would understand that, if he rejected the clause, he would have to give up all idea of a modification of the Madrid Convention.

The Moorish Delegate again left me under the impression that the failure in the assembling of the Conference would be a pleasant ending of a risky business. Padre Lerchundi left on Wednesday for Madrid.

No. 95.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 9.)

(No. 72.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 30, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by Her Royal and Imperial Highness the Duchess of Edinburgh and His Royal Highness Prince George of Wales, arrived here yesterday morning in Her Majesty's ship "Surprise," and spent the day in Tangier, returning in the evening to Gibraltar.

The Duke of Edinburgh mentioned to me that he thought he would not be able to revisit Tangier six weeks or two months hence, when I stated I thought the Sultan might be expected here; but His Royal Highness suggested that I might explain to His Shereefian Majesty that His Royal Highness had expressly come to Tangier at the present time under the hope of meeting His Shereefian Majesty, who had indicated this date as the one when he would probably be here.

The Duke of Edinburgh also said that he could depute some naval officer to represent His Royal Highness at any public reception when the Sultan should arrive at Tangier, or, if possible, he might come himself rapidly from Malta or elsewhere in Her Majesty's ship "Surprise," without, however, being accompanied by the fleet, to receive at the Sultan's hands the presents destined for the Queen.

I need hardly point out to your Lordship that the Sultan would be quite incapable of comprehending the Duke being represented by deputy, and that if His Royal Highness or some other member of the Royal Family could not come to meet His Shereefian Majesty, it would be better for me to explain to Mulei Hassan that he had missed receiving a visit from the Duke of Edinburgh through the detention which had taken place during the insurrection of the Berber tribes.

Perhaps your Lordship will also permit me to add that I still consider an imposing British naval display would be calculated to have a very good effect on the Sultan, who is disposed to be unduly influenced by the proximity of the French troops in Algeria and the recollections of the issues of the Hispano-Mauro war of 1869-60; therefore, if all the Mediterranean fleet could not be availed of at the proper time, some other combination of naval force might be displayed with equal advantage.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 9.)

(No. 73.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 30, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith for your Lordship's information, the translation of a letter addressed by the Spanish Legation to the Tangier newspaper "Al-Moghreb Al-Aksa," and published in that paper's issue of the 27th instant, on the subject of the asserted desire of the Spanish Government that the Military Commission which it maintains at Tetuan should be attached to the Sherrefian Court.

The Spanish Legation has hitherto taken every means in its power to ignore the existence of a public press at Tangier, therefore its present recourse to it in order to publish an indirect censure against the foreign Military Commissions already existing at the Sherrefian Court is very marked, and is probably intended to draw the Sultan's attention to the consideration shown by the Spanish Government for the rights of the Moorish Government. If there is, however, any objection against foreign military officers being attached to the Maroquine army, there must be equal objection to Spanish officers mapping out the country all around the Spanish possessions in Morocco.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN

Inclosure in No. 96

Extract from the "Al-Moghreb Al-Aksa" of May 27, 1888.

(Translation)

To the Editors of the "Al-Moghreb Al-Aksa."

Gentlemen,

Tangier, May 20, 1888.

IN "Al-Moghreb Al-Aksa" of to-day you assert, "It is no secret that the Spanish Government has many times expressed the wish to transfer to the Court of His Sherrefian Majesty the Military Commission which it maintains at Tetuan."

To say that the Spanish Military Commission is engaged and will be engaged so long as this Government will permit it and agree to it in topographical works which could not be carried out with the same speed and regularity if it was attached to the Royal head-quarters is sufficient to demonstrate that up to the present moment what you assert "is the secret desire of the Spanish Government" has not been solicited.

On the other hand, this presumed secret desire does not appear to exist even mentally, for it has not yet been shown that the foreign Military Commissions attached to the Sultan are of use or expedient, and that Spain should send officers to be attached to the Sultan it would be necessary that His Majesty should ask for them, and that it should be admitted that they were desirable for both nations.

I beg to insert these lines in the coming number of the "Al-Moghreb," thanking you in anticipation.

The First Secretary of the Spanish Legation in Tangier,
(Signed) FRANCESCO SOLIVAR.

No. 97.

Messrs. Shuttleworth, Cox, and Co. to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 9.)

My Lord,

Botolph Claydon, Eastcheap, June 7, 1888.

REFERRING to your favour of the 21st March last, we shall be glad to hear if you have yet received a Report from Tangier with reference to the case of ourselves v. Pariente.

We are, &c.
(Signed) SHUTTLEWORTH, COX, AND Co.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 12.)

(No. 74 Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 4, 1888.

THIS morning my Italian colleague, Signor Cantagalli, called on me and read to me a telegram which he had received from Signor Crispi, reciting to him what his Excellency had learnt from London was the present state of things at Madrid with regard to the meeting of the proposed Conference on Moorish Affairs.

From this recital I gathered that Señor Moret, in consideration of Sir Clare Ford's objection to the summoning of the Conference before the Moorish Delegate, had been provided with satisfactory instructions concerning the suspensory clause in a Protocol recording that the modifications of the Convention of 1880 are not to take effect until His Sherrefian Majesty has carried out to the satisfaction of the Powers the commercial and judicial reforms described in the "additional declarations," had promised his Excellency to cause the Sultan to be informed of the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, which he, Señor Moret, did not consider His Majesty would object to.

Shortly after Signor Cantagalli had left me, Cid-el-Hadj Mohammed Torres called on me, and I availed myself of the opportunity to inquire of him whether any communications had passed between the Spanish Legation and himself in the above sense.

The Hadj replied in the negative, and added that he did not believe recent steps had been taken by Señor Soliveres, the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires, to obtain direct from the Sherrefian Court any modification of the instructions already held by him. Torres.

I further inquired of the Moorish Commissioner for Foreign Affairs whether he considered that the Sultan would be disposed to permit him to agree to a Protocol which would render the abolition of protection of natives dependent on the establishment of commercial and judicial reforms in Morocco.

Hadj Mohammed Torres replied that the Sultan would have no difficulty in comprehending the purport of the conditions. His Sherrefian Majesty would understand that he must rest contented with the Madrid Convention of 1880 if he was not prepared to attempt the reforms which were asked of him.

The Moorish Commissioner once more expressed to me his personal hope that the Conference would not assemble, and he also admitted that the Sultan was becoming aware of the serious issues which had been raised by the manner in which the question of modifications in the protection of natives had been brought under the notice of the Powers.

The substance of this despatch was telegraphed by me to-day to Sir Clare Ford.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN

No. 99

Mr. J. G. Kennedy to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 12.)

(No. 9 Africa. Confidential)

My Lord,

Rome, June 7, 1888.

WHILE awaiting, in company with Signor Damiani, the moment when Signor Crispi could receive me, as reported in my immediately preceding despatch, I remarked to the former, in reference to the Zanzibar difficulty, that the Chamber of Deputies would never consent to allow Italy to be saddled with a second African question.

Signor Damiani, after some remarks as to the necessity of vindicating national honour and prestige, admitted that Massowah and Zanzibar were of secondary importance for Italy, and at once reverted to his favourite topic of the importance to Italy of the northern coast of Africa. The questions involved in the possession of the countries forming the northern coast-line of Africa were, said Signor Damiani, questions of life and death to Italy.

France, continued Signor Damiani, had got possession of Algeria and Tunis, and was actively intriguing to acquire possession of Morocco and the country between Tripoli and Egypt which had commercial communications with the Soudan. In these designs

France was well served by three able men, namely, M. Féraud in Morocco, Mgr. Lavignerie in Tunis, and General Allegro as regarded Tripoli.

The two countries chiefly interested in thwarting the above French designs were, said Signor Damiani, England and Italy.

As Signor Damiani spoke with much earnestness, I venture to report his remarks to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. G. KENNEDY.

No. 100.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 13.)

(No. 76. Confidential. Ext. 6.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 5, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to report that, on the receipt of your Lordship's inquiries under yesterday's date, I ascertained, both from the Moorish Commissioner for Foreign Affairs and from other trustworthy quarters, that M. Mansour Melhameh, the Interpreter of the German Legation, whilst recently at the Sherrefian Court, see my despatch No. 59 of the 19th April, which was to the Marquis of Salisbury, the desire of the Sultan of Turkey to enter into diplomatic relations with Morocco. Hadj Mohammed Torres told me that M. Melhameh's overtures were perceptibly rejected by the Sultan, without previous consultation with any one. The Moorish Commissioner said that the pretensions of the Ottoman Sovereign to the Khalifat of the Mussulman world were repugnant to the Sultan of Morocco; and that, consequently, no Ruler of this country could view with satisfaction the presence at his Court of a Representative of a Sovereign who claimed to be supreme among Moslems.

I have endeavoured to convey to the Moorish Government the views I hold on this matter (as reported in my despatch to your Lordship No. 7, Confidential, of the 21st January, 1887), feeling confident that not only would Hassan resist to the utmost entering into diplomatic intercourse with Turkey, but also that the French Government would sufficiently oppose such intercourse to make it quite unnecessary for me to mark publicly any objections I might have to the legitimate representation of Turkey in Morocco.

Perhaps your Lordship will be interested to learn that M. Teuts, the late German Minister here, was very informant concerning the contemplated appointment by the Porte of Pehri Bey Tzinganoh (reported in my before-mentioned despatch No. 7 of the 21st January, 1887).

I had the honour to communicate, by telegraph, to your Lordship the substance of this despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 101.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Shuttleworth, Cox, and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, June 14, 1888.

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, inquiring whether any Report has been received from Tangier in regard to the case of yourselves v. Pariente.

I am to acquaint you, in reply, that Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco has reported that the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs has definitively refused to reopen the case.

It is presumed that the ground of this decision is, that the Judgment recovered by yourselves in the High Court of Justice was for the same cause of action as that referred to arbitration by your consent in April 1885, and disposed of by the Award.

If such be the fact, the refusal of the Moorish Government to give effect to the Judgment does not seem unreasonable.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 102.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 59. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 15, 1888.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 75, Confidential, of the 5th instant, and I have to convey to you my approval of the attitude assumed by you in regard to the establishment of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 103.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 16.)

(No. 77. Confidential. Ext. 7.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 6, 1888.

YESTERDAY I had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch No. 55 of the 30th ultimo, conveying to me prints, inclusive of section No. 435, and copies of Sir Clare Ford's telegrams to your Lordship Nos. 8 and 9 of the 20th ultimo, concerning the assembling of the proposed Conference at Madrid.

A most careful perusal of these papers, coupled with the explanations received by me here on every side, as to the instructions held by the Moorish Government, the Sultan on the conduct he is to observe at the Conference, and the fact that in some way or another, the Sultan is not to be made clearly aware of the fact that a suspending clause shall be inserted in the Protocol, providing that the modifications of the Madrid Convention of 1880 shall not take effect until the Sultan has carried out, to the satisfaction of the Powers, the reforms demanded by them.

I have already had the honour of pointing out to your Lordship that no value can be attached to the individuality of Hadj Mohammed Torres. The distinction which it seems Señor Moret is attempting to draw between communicating to the Sultan, or to the Moorish Delegate your Lordship's conditions, is a distinction which cannot exist, if a wish exists that the Sultan should be kept in ignorance of the substance of the communication to pronounce upon. Hadj Mohammed Torres, as a Moorish Minister, is to be taken to be the Sherrefian Government (i.e., the Sultan's Government), and his communications are a mere cipher, and communications made to him under the name of Hadj Mohammed Torres are not to go further than himself, are no communications at all.

Therefore, all Señor Moret's attempts to induce Her Majesty's Government to accept, as brought to the knowledge of the Moorish Government, your Lordship's conditions, should be rejected so long as his Excellency declines to make them known clearly to the Sultan, for they can only be intended to bring about the meeting of a Conference on a different basis than that stipulated for by Her Majesty's Government.

Under these circumstances, I would venture to ask your Lordship's sanction that I should communicate to the Moorish Government, that is, to the Sherrefian Government, who is bound to bring to the Sultan's knowledge all notes received from me, the terms of Her Majesty's Government concerning the meeting of the Conference which the Spanish Government, as sponsor for the Moorish Government in this matter of the Conference may also have undertaken, shall be made comprehensible to the Moorish Minister.

Otherwise, I can only foresee that the conduct of Her Majesty's Government, which is moved just as much by a regard for the welfare of this Empire as by a proper care for British interests, will appear to the Sultan as opposed to the realization of His Majesty's wishes.

I cannot refrain from admitting to your Lordship that throughout the whole to the negotiations about the modifications of the existing privileges of protection the Spanish Government has assumed the position of possessing an influence altogether exceptional over the Sultan of Morocco—an assumption which I hardly consider justified.

There can be no doubt that Señor Drosdado, by emulating the Sultan's desire to close Morocco to European enterprise and progress, has gained the approval of His Sherrefian Majesty, and that his approval will last so long, and no longer, as Señor

Diosdado is prepared to say "Amen" to all the Sultan's wishes and caprices. The Spanish Minister returned last August from seeing the Sultan at Rabat, and carried with him to Madrid His Shereefian Majesty's request, that a Conference might be assembled once again to do away with the abuses which had developed under the Convention of 1880. But this request was only made on the representation from Señor Diosdado, that the Powers were generally disposed to abandon their privileges to exercise protection. The Sultan would never have solicited the reassembling of the Conference if he had expected for a single moment that he might be called upon to enter upon a system of reforms more in accordance with modern times.

The Spanish Government, too, has never had any other idea but to obtain the abolition of the privilege of protection for the purpose of depriving the French Government of what it considers a political arm in this country. This is the one view held by Señor Diosdado, if not by Señor Moret. The Conference, it is hoped, will, if it meets, in any case pronounce against Article XVI of the Convention of 1880, under which the Shereef of Wazan has been transformed into a French instrument for gradually working the transfer of Morocco to France, and should it also hamper the development of British (present yearly value, 1,500,000*l.*) commerce and check the influx of British subjects and capital into the country, considerable steps towards Spanish "transcendency and pre-eminence" in Morocco will have been made.

Señor Moret's repugnance to communicate to the Sultan your Lordship's condition arises from no fear of injuring the British position in Morocco, but from a knowledge that the communication will be tantamount to an admission to Mulai Hassan, that Spain cannot a bit more than His Shereefian Majesty arrest the continuously increasing intercourse of this country with the outer world, and that it will force Señor Diosdado to vacate his standing of approving chorus at the Maroquine Court.

Hitherto in this country the British Representative has always been first and foremost in counselling its Rulers, so as to keep the Empire intact and preserve it in accord with the rest of the world. There is hardly an improvement which has been effected during the past half-century that cannot be directly attributed to the action of Her Majesty's Government carried out by my able predecessor, Sir John Drummond Hay. He was never able to assume a tone of approval of the system of Government followed, yet by patience and judicious counsels he maintained his influence over the Moors, and retained their utmost confidence to the moment of his retirement, so that I have been able to enter upon the advantages of the position created by him.

I do not believe that I have since lost that position, though, like Sir John Hay, I have, on more than one occasion, had to obtain from the Sultan concessions which he accorded reluctantly. On each occasion, however, I have had to observe that His Majesty and Ministers relied most implicitly on the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, and accepted them with the conviction that they were not imposed, but merely enjoined for the advantage of Morocco itself.

Therefore, your Lordship will perhaps understand that now, in this matter of the Conference, I am rather distrustful of accepting uncontrolled the conveyance to the Sultan, through Spanish mediums, of the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, wishes which, if not clearly explained, may easily be made to appear as being full of antagonism to the Shereefian rule.

I admit there is also some personal feeling on my part on the subject. I cannot divest myself of the suspicion, that I have been depicted to the Sultan as having inspired, in a way, your Lordship's call for commercial and judicial reforms, and that the attempt to conceal the full purport of your Lordship's policy from His Shereefian Majesty is being made with the hope that the Sultan will not withdraw from a Conference which, if once assembled at a distant spot from Morocco, will not be impeded by local views, or what have been styled the ideas of a new arrival ready to upset the past.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 104.

Foreign Office to Admiralty.

Sir, I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier* in regard to the visit paid

* No. 95.

to that city by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh on the 30th ultimo, accompanied by Her Royal and Imperial Highness the Duchess of Edinburgh and His Royal Highness Prince George of Wales.

I am to request that in laying this letter before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, you will call their Lordships' attention to Sir W. K. Green's observations as to a display of naval force on the occasion of the Sultan of Morocco's visit to Tangier; and I am to add that Lord Salisbury considers that such a display would be desirable, if arrangements could be conveniently made for having one.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 105.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 17, 6.30 P.M.)

(No. 14.)
(Telegraphic.)

Madrid, June 17, 1888, 2 P.M.

THE new Minister for Foreign Affairs received the Heads of foreign Embassies and Missions yesterday afternoon for the first time. The interviews held on the occasion were short, but I gathered that the subject of the proposed Morocco Conference will be dropped for the present.

No. 106.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 23.)

(No. 80.)
My Lord,

Tangier, June 14, 1888.

WITH reference to No. 1 of North Africa print, section No. 435,* I have the honour to state to your Lordship that Señor Diosdado has several times mentioned to me that he had obtained convincing proof of the intercourse existing between the French Consul at Mogador and the Shereefian family of Ben Hussein, which exercises great influence in the Loos, somewhat similar to that enjoyed by the Shereefs of Wazan in the northern parts of this Empire; but I have never thought the matter of sufficient importance to report to your Lordship.

All these semi-independent Shereefian (saintly) families are disposed to give themselves importance by communicating directly with such of the foreign representatives in this country as may wish to address them in the same manner, especially, also, if there is a prospect of the former gaining some slight—even very slight—pecuniary benefit by this corresponding.

I consider that Señor Diosdado is perfectly right in believing that the French contemplate reaching the Atlantic from their possessions in Algeria by keeping on the southern side of the great Atlas mountains, and that the railway which has already reached Ain Sefra is to be ultimately prolonged to some spot on the Atlantic coast. But I also believe that the friendship or hostility of the Ben Hussein Shereefs can do little to advance or impede French projects in that direction, and that if, at the proper time, it is decided that they must be opposed, the obstruction must be entirely European, and not be based at all on native elements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 107.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 23.)

(No. 81.)
My Lord,

Tangier, June 14, 1888.

THOUGH it is perhaps quite needless that I should reiterate to your Lordship that in my despatch No. 58 of the 3rd ultimo I recorded to your Lordship exactly what Señor Diosdado said to me, still I trust I shall be pardoned for, in face of Sir Clare Ford's report in his telegram to your Lordship No. 8 of the 29th ultimo, that Señor Moret's words to him were quite contrary to the statements in my aforesaid despatch,

* See No. 68.

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reverting thus far to the matter as to point out that my subsequent despatches, recounting to your Lordship the nature of the instructions held by Hadj Mohammed Torres as to his mission at the proposed Conference, support my statements and not those of Señor Moret.

Moreover, I solicit your Lordship's permission to add that I to-day availed myself of the opportunity of a visit which I had to pay to the Moorish Commissioner on the occasion of the Mahommedan Little Feast, to obtain from his Excellency a recapitulation of the accounts which he had already given me of the Sultan's instructions to him regarding his expected mission at Madrid.

Hadj Mohammed Torres not only completely confirmed his past statements, but also told me that he has never seen any document emanating from the Spanish Legation in the form of Señor Moret's notes; that he has never had anything communicated to him by Señor Diosdado concerning matters to be discussed at the Conference, which he was asked to keep to himself; and that, in fact, nothing has passed lately between him and the Spanish Legation for him to expect any modifications being made by the Sultan in the instructions already held by his Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 108.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 23.)

(No. 82.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 16, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 56 of the 6th instant, and to state, with regard to the rumoured construction of a fortress nearly opposite Tarifa, that there is no other foundation for the report, as far as the Moorish Government is concerned, than the orders of the Sultan, which have not yet been acted upon, commented on in my despatch to your Lordship No. 152, Confidential, of the 30th December last.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 109.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 22.)

(No. 84. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 18, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Marquis de la Vega de Armijo, the newly-appointed Minister of State, called on me yesterday. This was his Excellency's official visit in return for the one I paid his Excellency on the previous day at the Ministry of State.

The Marquis de la Vega de Armijo is an old friend of mine, with whom during my last two and a-half years' residence in Madrid I have always maintained most friendly social relations.

Consequently, our conversation on the occasion of his Excellency's visit to me yesterday was of a confidential and intimate character.

We mutually congratulated each other on the excellence of the relations at present existing between our two countries respectively. As regards the general political outlook, his Excellency, although expressing his belief that the earnest desire of the majority of the Great Powers was to maintain peace, appeared to harbour some suspicion as to the attitude of Russia *vis-à-vis* Austria, and seemed to think that the least reassuring spot on the political horizon was to be found in the east of Europe.

With regard to the subject which has of late been occupying so much attention at the Spanish Ministry of State, namely, that of the proposed Conference on Morocco affairs, the Marquis de la Vega de Armijo said at once that it was quite impossible to entertain any prospect of a meeting taking place at present. The heat of Madrid, and the strong desire of everybody, able to do so, to quit this city the moment Cortes is adjourned, would, he said, quite put an end to such an idea, even if he contemplated continuing the course which had been initiated by his predecessor in office (Señor Moret) on the Morocco Conference question.

I gathered from what the Minister said that he, personally, was very sceptical as to any beneficial result accruing from the Conference, and that, according to his point of view, it would be exceedingly inexpedient to think of convening a meeting before a previous agreement had been arrived at between the parties who would be called upon to assist at it, defining the exact objects they respectively had in view, and likewise the exact manner in which the work of the Conference should be conducted.

His Excellency then told me, confidentially, that some months ago, long before he contemplated that political events would place him in the Ministry of State, Señor Moret had spoken to him on the Morocco Conference question, and that he (the Marquis de la Vega) had expressed his opinion adversely to it, and, much to Señor Moret's disgust, had told him that no good could come out of it without there were to be previous to its meeting a thoroughly good understanding between all the parties concerned in it, which he thought was certainly not the case at the moment he was speaking with the ex-Minister of State.

In short, his Excellency appears to have thrown very cold water on the project, and he added that he was glad he had spoken as he did, inasmuch as now that he was in office Señor Moret could not reproach him with want of sympathy or disinclination to tread in his (Señor Moret's) footsteps so far as this Conference matter is concerned.

I do not wish to convey the impression to your Lordship's mind that the meeting of the Conference is definitively abandoned by the present Spanish Minister of State; indeed his words to me, which were to the following effect, that "it was too hot in Madrid to meet now, whatever it might be in November," would preclude that idea.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

No. 110.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received June 25.)

Admiralty, June 23, 1888.

Sir,

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, forwarding copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier respecting the visit paid to that city by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh on the 30th May, in which attention is called to the observations of Sir W. K. Green as to a display of naval force on the occasion of the visit of the Sultan of Morocco to Tangier, and stating that the Secretary of State considers that such a display would be desirable if arrangements could conveniently be made.

In reply, I am to request that you will state to the Marquis of Salisbury that my Lords cannot undertake that the Mediterranean Squadron should visit Tangier, if the Duke of Edinburgh goes there, but a communication has been made to His Royal Highness suggesting that, if he visits Tangier, some force should accompany him.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

No. 111.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. Kirby Green.

(No. 10.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, June 25, 1888, 5.42 P.M.

MOROCCO Conference postponed, and will probably not meet before November next.

No. 112.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 27.)

(No. 83. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 20, 1888.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 63, Confidential, of the 11th ultimo, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that the German engineer, whose name, I believe,

is Rothenburg, is now at Rabat engaged in preparing plans for strengthening the fortifications of the place and mounting thereon Krupp guns.

A rumour is current here that whilst M. Mansour Melhameli, the Interpreter of the German Legation, was recently at the Sherrefian Court, proposals were made for the purchase on behalf of the German Government of the Island of Peregil, in the Straits of Gibraltar. I am inclined to think that the only foundation for this rumour is the known desire of M. Mansour to sell to the Marquise Government a private property he holds on the shores of the Bay of Caucosh, which is a point of the Moorish coast opposite to Tarifa, and which has been represented in interested quarters as being of considerable strategical importance. Indeed, I should not be surprised to learn hereafter that M. Mansour has already succeeded in advantageously disposing of his property to the Sultan, who, in common with all Moors, is very prone to attach undue importance to even the most inaccessible spots of the Marquise coast.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 113.

Foreign Office to Sir H. Verney.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 27, 1888.*
WITH reference to your letter of the 26th ultimo, a copy of which was sent to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acquaint you that Sir W. K. Green has reported that there is no other foundation for the alleged construction of a fortress nearly opposite Tarifa, as far as the Moorish Government is concerned, than the orders of the Sultan of Morocco to erect a fort and barracks on the Island of Peregil, which have not yet been acted upon, and which there is some reason to suppose may be cancelled.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEPOTE.

No. 114.

M. Catalani to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 29.)

(Translation.)
(Confidential.)
My Lord,

London, June 22, 1888.
I DID not fail to communicate to the King's Government Sir W. K. Green's five Reports on the rising in Morocco which Sir Thomas Lister did me the honour to transmit to me by your Excellency's directions on the 26th ultimo.

In reply, his Excellency Signor Crispi has instructed me to thank your Excellency sincerely for these documents, and to state at the same time that the Roman Cabinet is disposed to enter into an exchange of ideas with the Cabinet of London in the event of any great increase of the insurrection showing that it would be well to take counsel together on the subject. Signor Crispi has transmitted to me the inclosed copy of a recent Report from His Majesty's Minister at Tangier, with instructions to communicate it to your Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. CATALANI.

Inclosure in No. 114.

M. Cantagalli to M. Crispi.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Tangier, May 20, 1888.*
IN my Report of the 9th May I informed your Excellency that some tribes in the neighbourhood of Fez had risen against the authority of the Sultan.

At the head of this movement is Shereef Mulci Abd-el-Nahed-el-M'rani, a man of much reputation among the Berber Kabyles; he now has in his following the whole tribe of the Beni M'ghild, two considerable portions of the Beni M'tir, and about half the

Zaian. The insurrection broke out after the proclamation of the holy war in Taflet, and is its direct consequence.

Great preparations are now being made at Mequinez to put it down, and, from the arrangements being made, it seems that the Sultan intends to surround the valley of Beht (the country of the Beni M'ghild) on all sides, using for this purpose regular troops and some of the tribes of the region that have remained faithful, and to surround them with an impenetrable ring, and thus stifle the revolt.

The undertaking may not be so easy, for the Beni M'ghild have the reputation of being warlike, and, moreover, the mountainous nature of the ground and the forests scattered over the country make resistance easy. The Sultan has, however, dispatched certain influential Sherrefs to the insurgents offering them the "awan" of their Sovereign on the two conditions of their paying war contributions and taxes, which they have not done for many years, and of their delivering up to him the Sherref Abd-el-Nahed-el-M'rani, dead or alive.

If these negotiations do not succeed, he will put himself at the head of the troops, and military operations will at once begin.

(Signed) B. CANTAGALLI.

No. 115.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 64.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, June 20, 1888.
WITH reference to your despatch No. 72 of the 30th ultimo, copy of which was communicated to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, I now transmit to you, for your information, the accompanying copy of a reply which has been received from their Lordships,* from which you will learn the steps which have been taken to meet your recommendations as to the visit of a naval force to Tangier on the occasion of the Sultan of Morocco's sojourn in that city.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEPOTE.

No. 116.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 30.)

(No. 84.)
My Lord,

Tangier, June 21, 1888.
I HAVE read attentively the letters and documents from the Aborigines Protection Society to your Lordship comprised in Section No. 431 of the North African Print forwarded to me in your Lordship's despatch No. 55 of the 30th ultimo,† and I trust I am not wrong in believing that it is not necessary for me to reply point by point to all the allegations, suggestions, and surmises contained in Captain Rolleston's statement to the Aborigines Protection Society dated the 25th February last.

All the matters brought forward in Captain Rolleston's statement have already, on frequent occasions, received the closest attention and consideration of this Legation, and, as Captain Rolleston is perfectly aware, his philanthropic investigations at Dar-al-Baida were closely connected with the dismissal in 1884 of Mr. Lapeen from the post of British Vice-Consul there.

To discuss afresh abuses to which, as far as possible, remedies were applied, would, I believe, be unduly occupying your Lordship's valuable time, and would have no other result than, perhaps, to give personal satisfaction to Captain Rolleston by renewing the memory of his disinterested action, for which he has doubtless already gained the gratitude of the victims of Moorish misgovernment whose cases are included in his statement.

Your Lordship is aware that, under your Lordship's instructions (see your Lordship's despatch No. 67 of the 31st August, 1887,) I warned the Sultan's Government that the Moorish authorities should be careful not to take action against natives upon demands of British creditors except when officially supported by myself or a British Consular officer, and that I had no knowledge at the time of the above-quoted despatch, neither have I at present, of any Moors being detained in prison on British claims. I must

* No. 110.

† Not printed.

add, however, that it is quite possible that Moorish Governors in the interior may, in accord with unscrupulous British subjects, be detaining persons in prison on the plea of being indebted to the latter, but it is only by accident that such cases can come under my knowledge, when, of course, they would at once be dealt with by me.

To go further towards meeting Captain Rolleston's suggestions it would be needful, so far as concerns British subjects, not only to change existing laws, but also to modify the English Constitution with regard to personal rights. At present Moorish and other foreign subjects can, should they deem it expedient, bring actions against British subjects for injuries received through the proceedings of the latter, as Captain Rolleston is perfectly aware, for he is defendant in a suit lodged against him in the Chief Justice's Court at Gibraltar for his doings in Morocco.

All the other abuses and irregularities indicated by Captain Rolleston are entirely dependent on the lamentable government that obtains in this country. The deplorable state of the administration is not only known but fully admitted by all who have the slightest intercourse with Morocco. Hopes may be entertained of gradual improvement, which, when it has commenced, will sufficiently prove, even to Captain Rolleston, that the existing evils have depended more on Moorish maladministration than on the deficiencies of British laws and the shortcomings of those who have had to administer them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.